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Song et al.

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(54) **8-STROKE INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.**
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(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC 123/25 C, 25 P, 64; 60/712
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

An 8-stroke internal combustion engine which generates power in a highly efficient manner by injecting water such that the combustion gas is re-circulated, retaken into a cylinder block and recompressed immediately after 4-strokes resulting from the burning of fuel such that 4-strokes resulting from the combustion of fuel and 4-strokes resulting from the evaporation and volume expansion of injected water are alternately repeated.

13 Claims, 15 Drawing Sheets

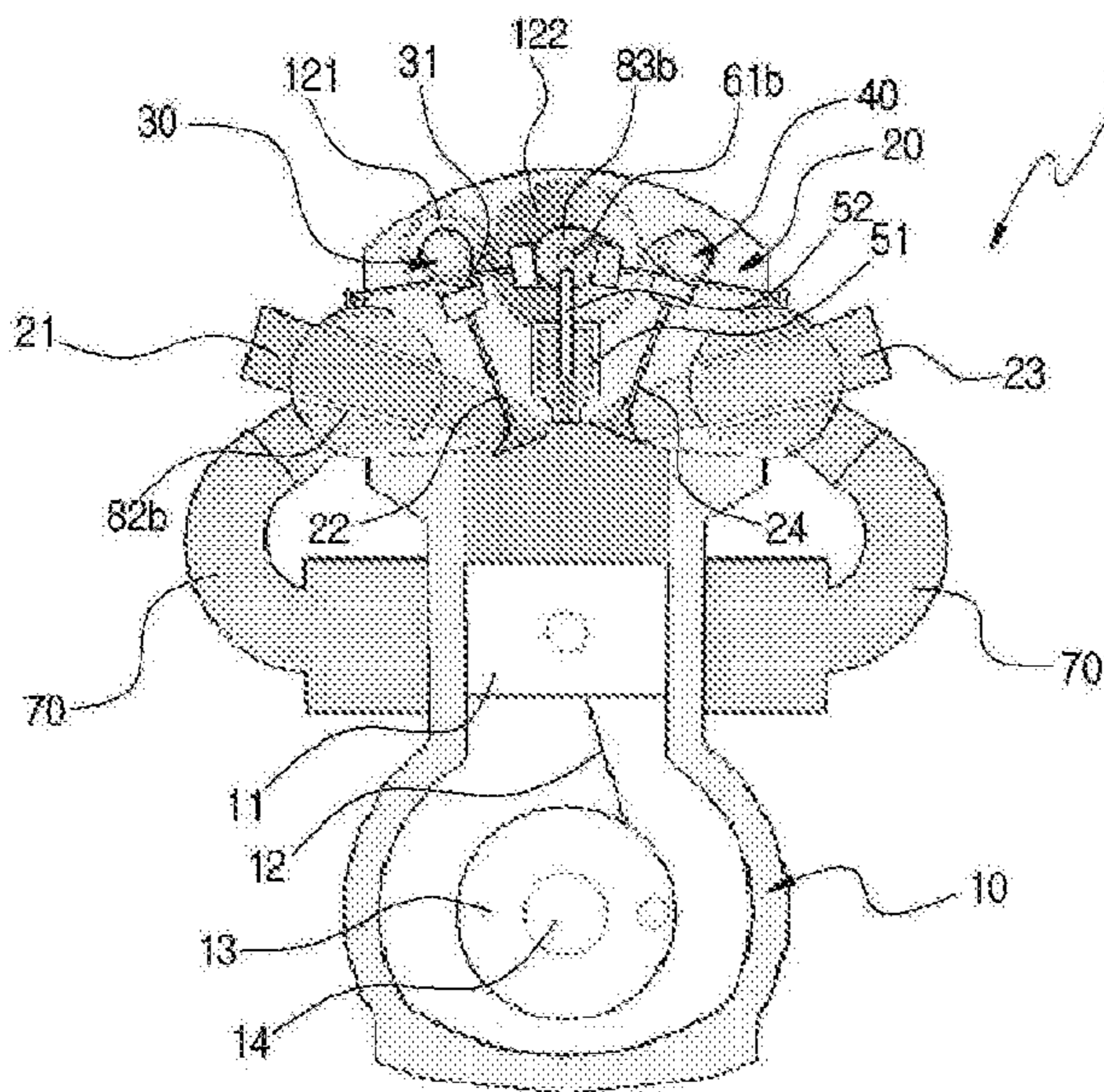


Fig. 1

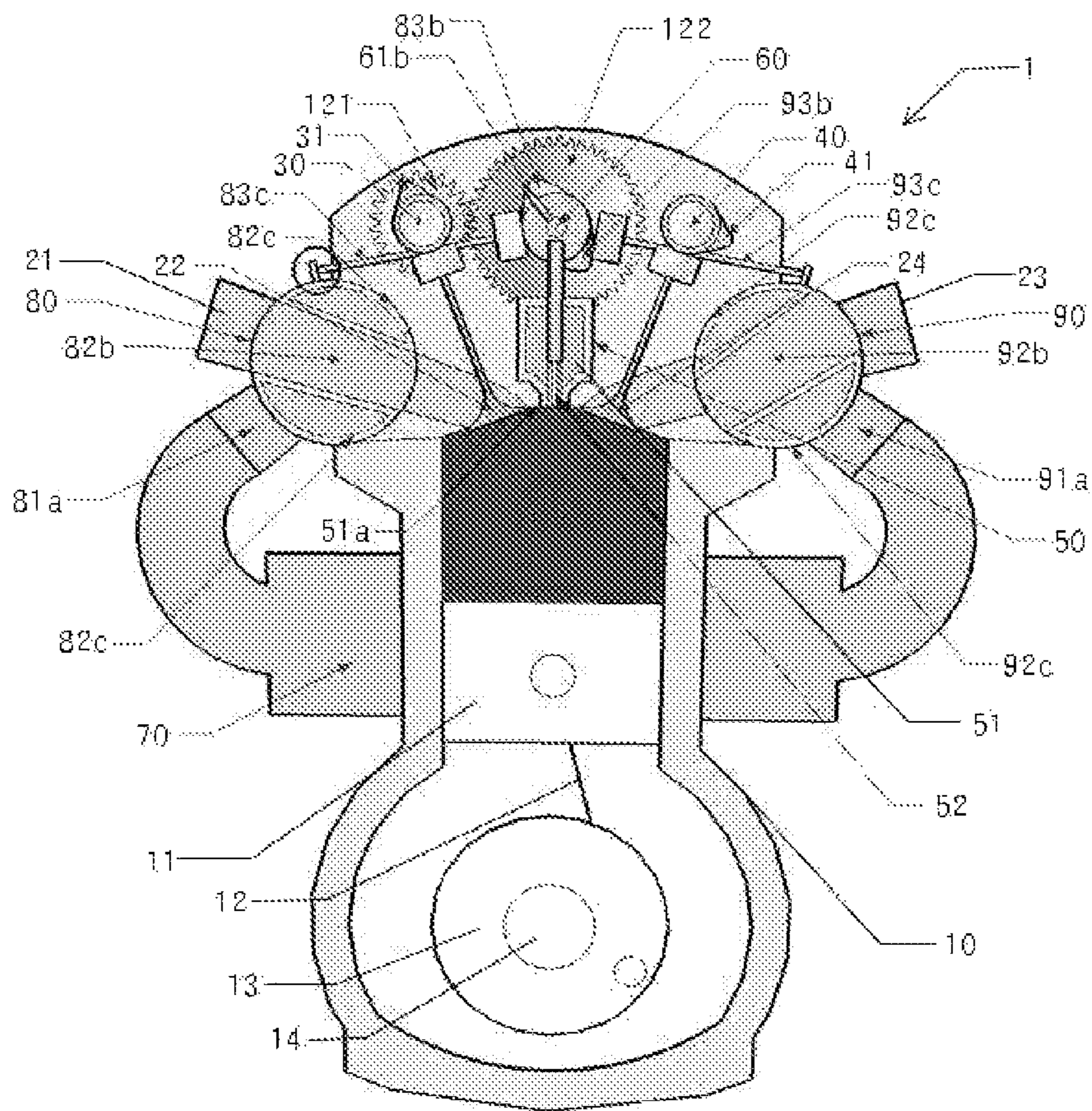


Fig. 3

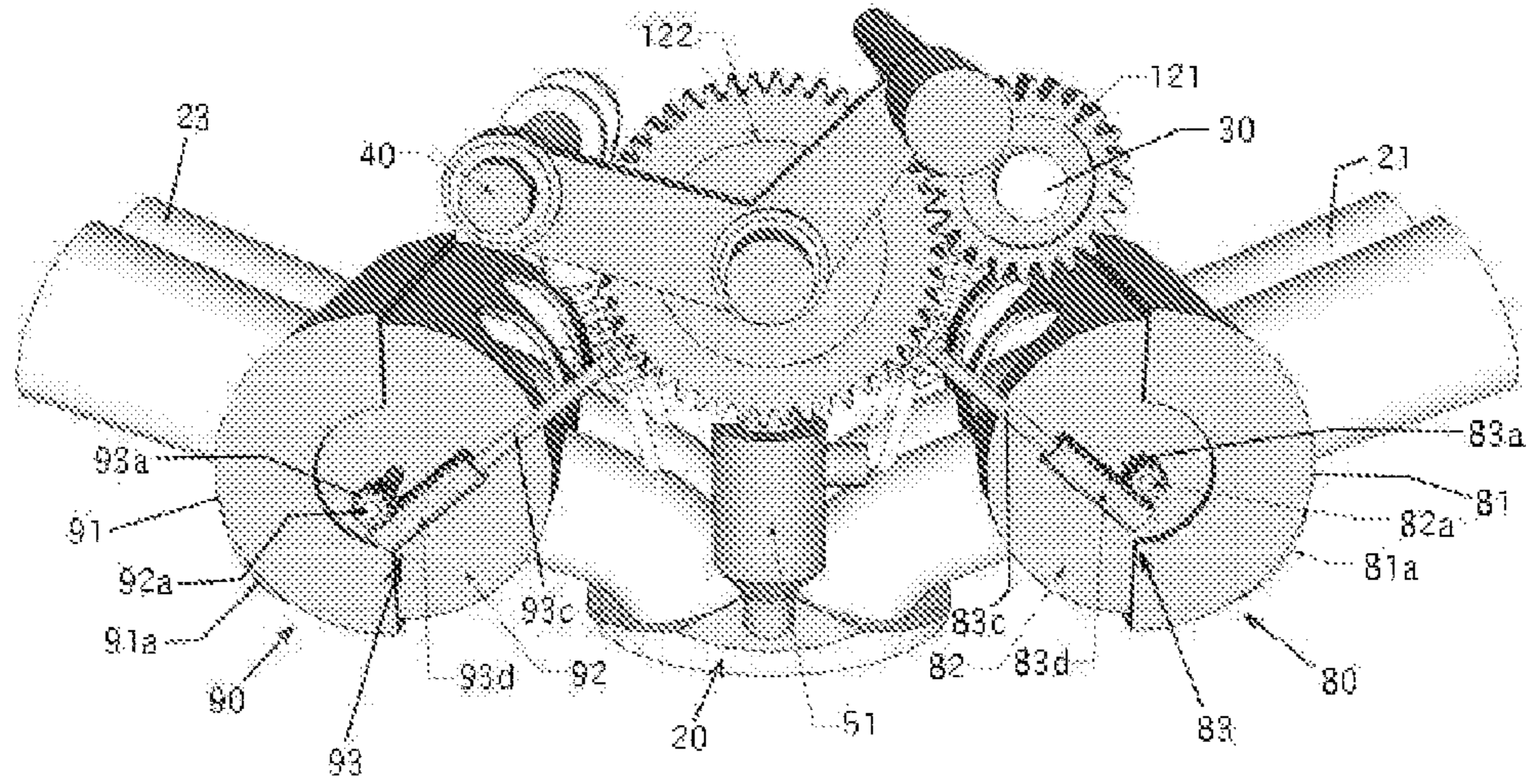


Fig. 4

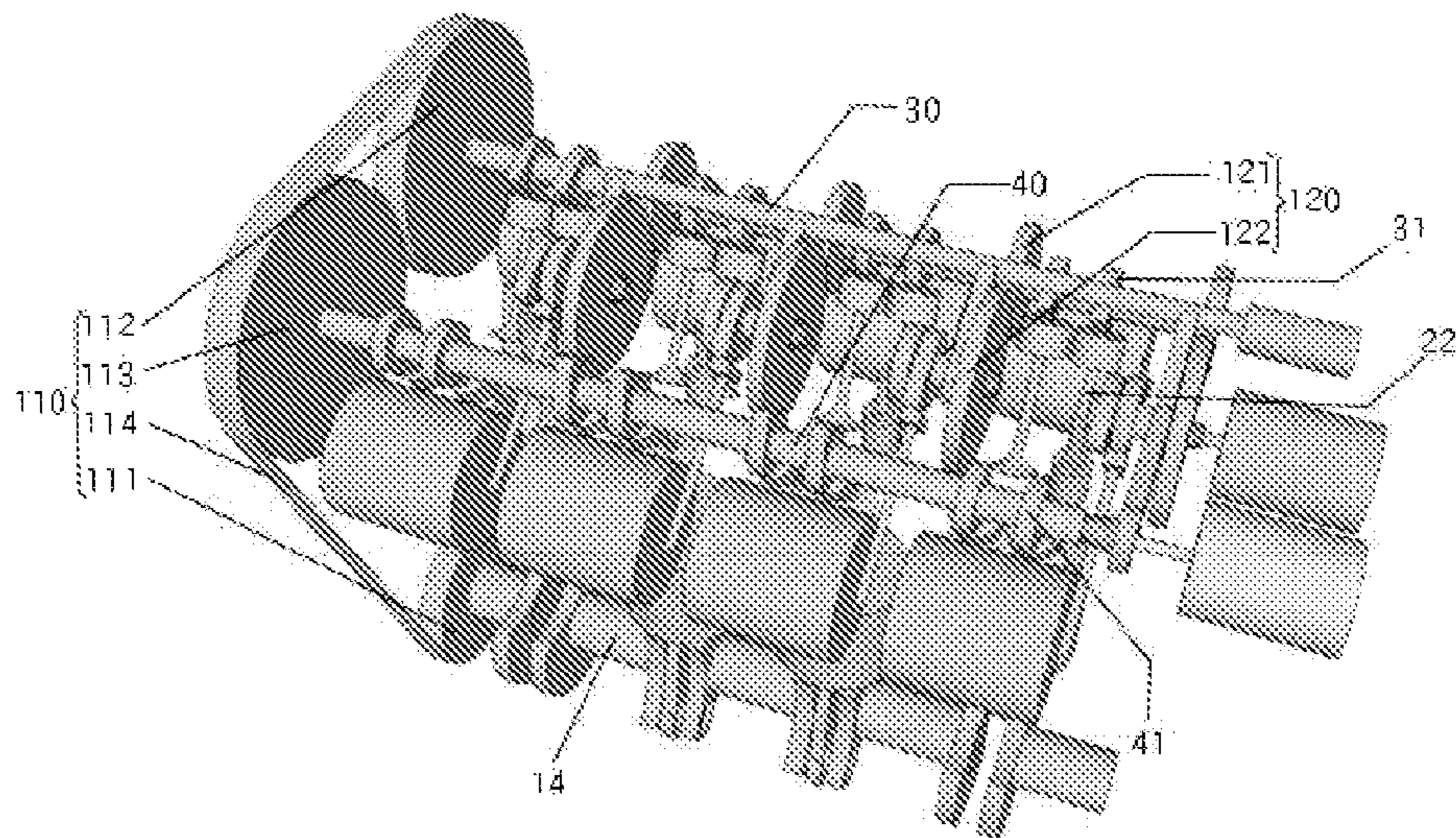


Fig. 5

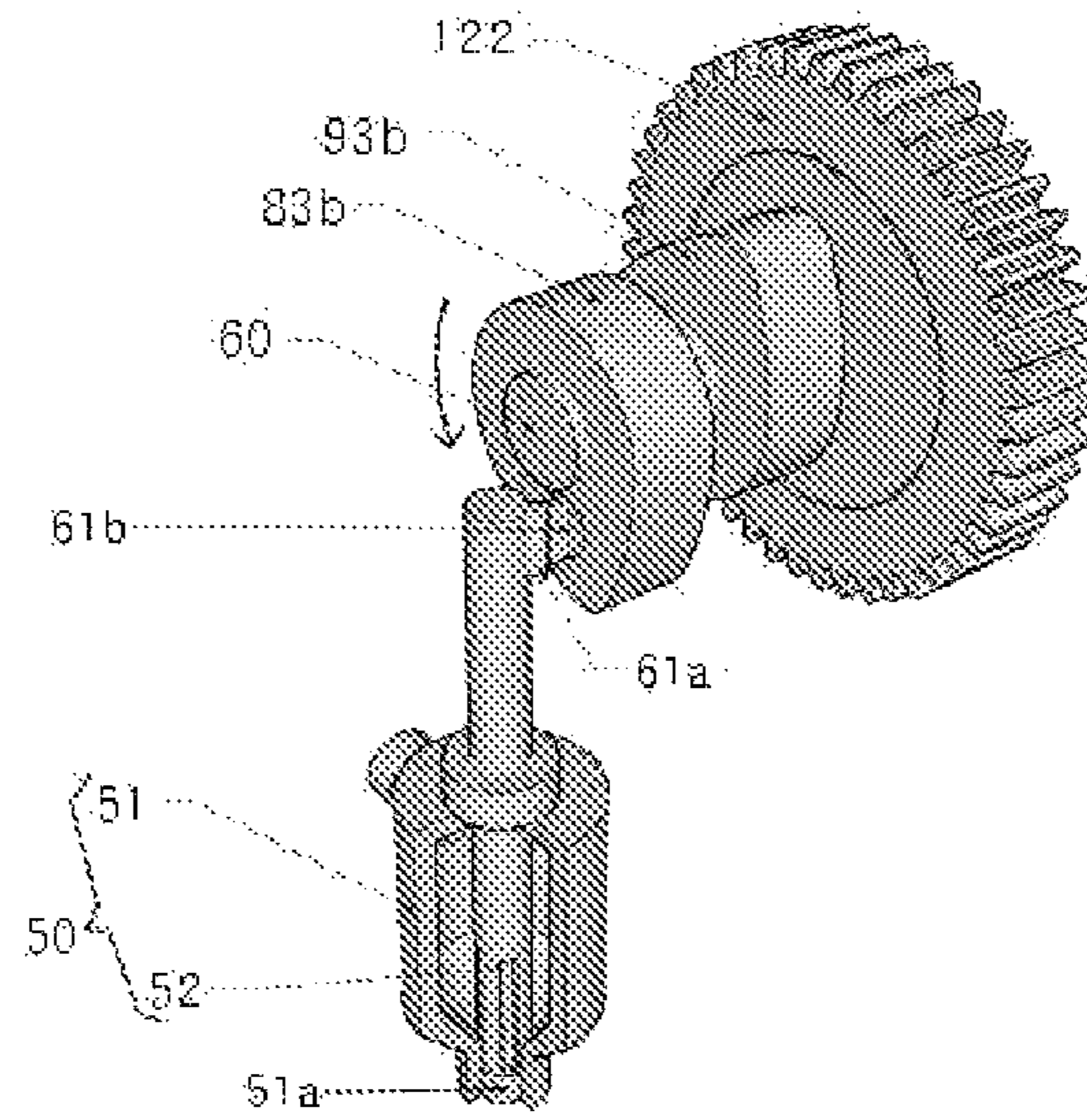


Fig. 6

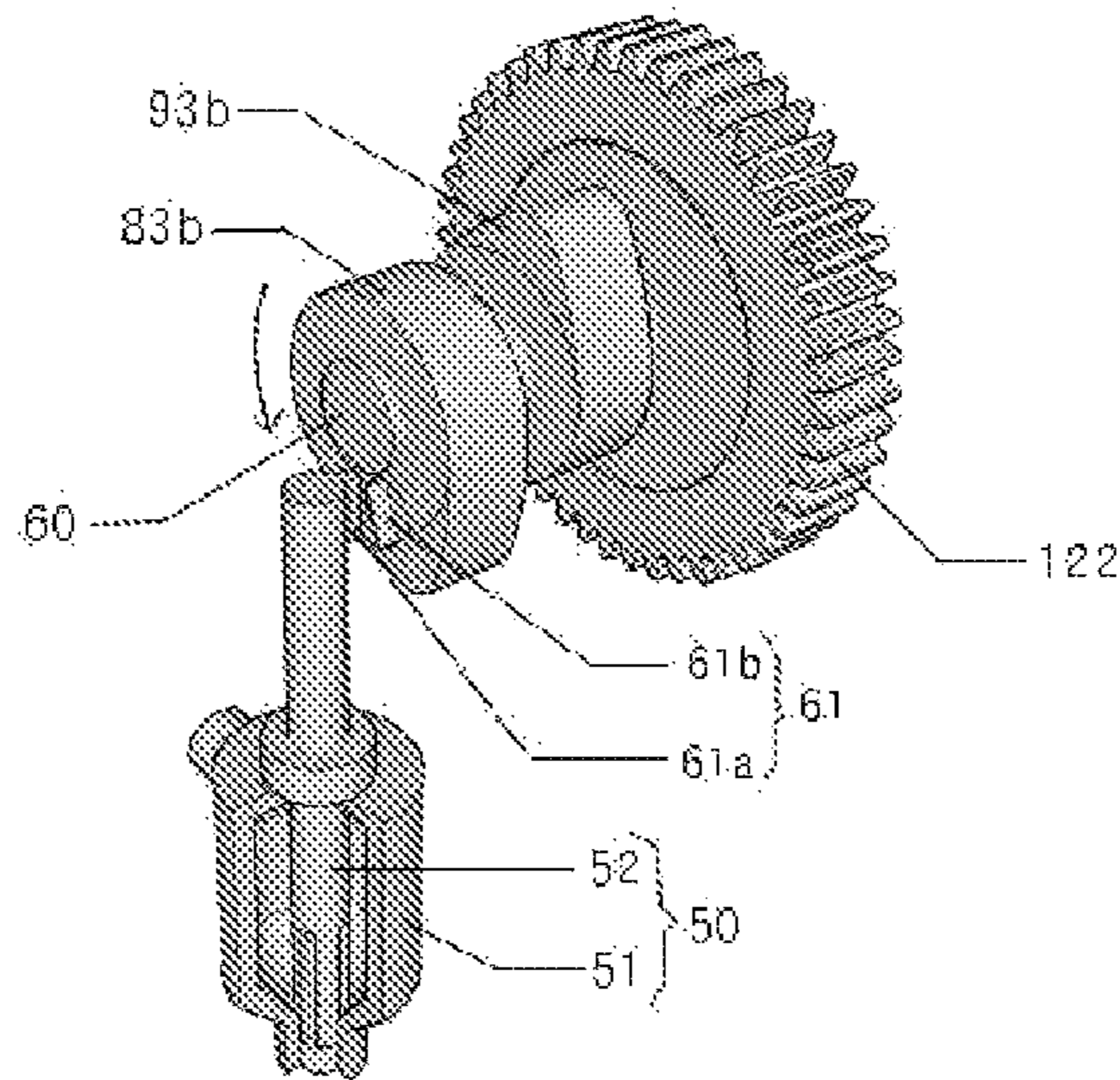


Fig. 7

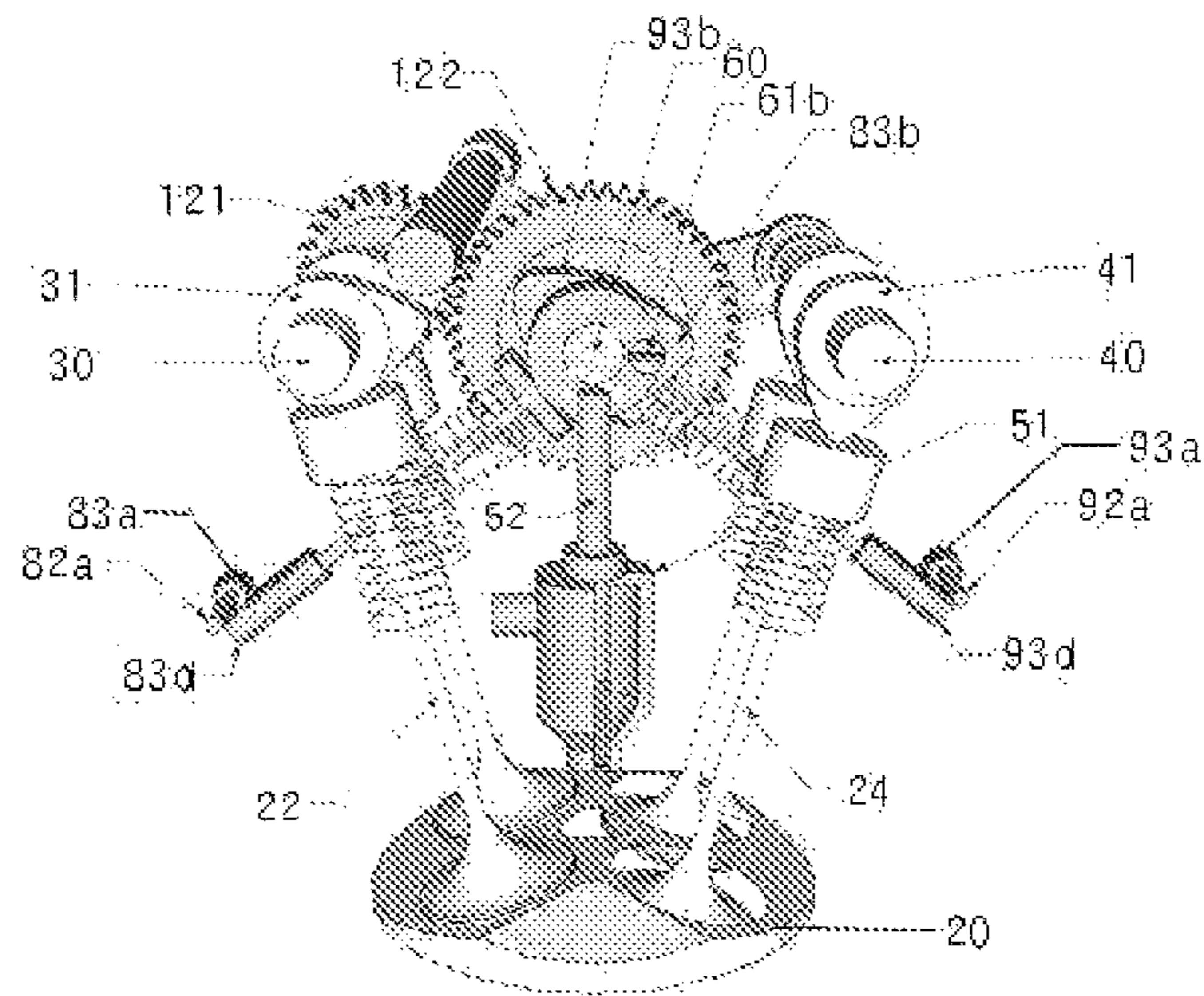


Fig. 8

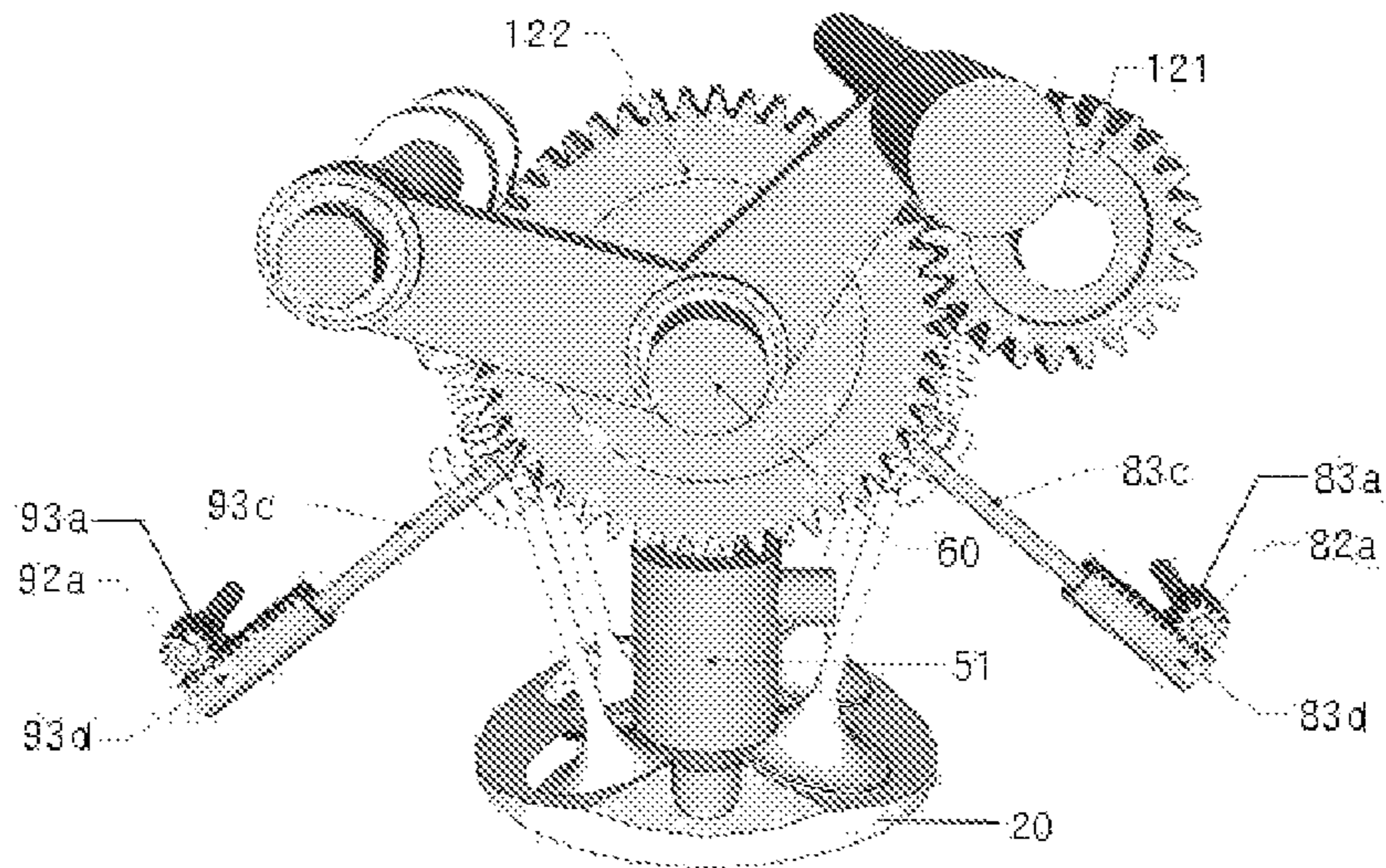


Fig. 11

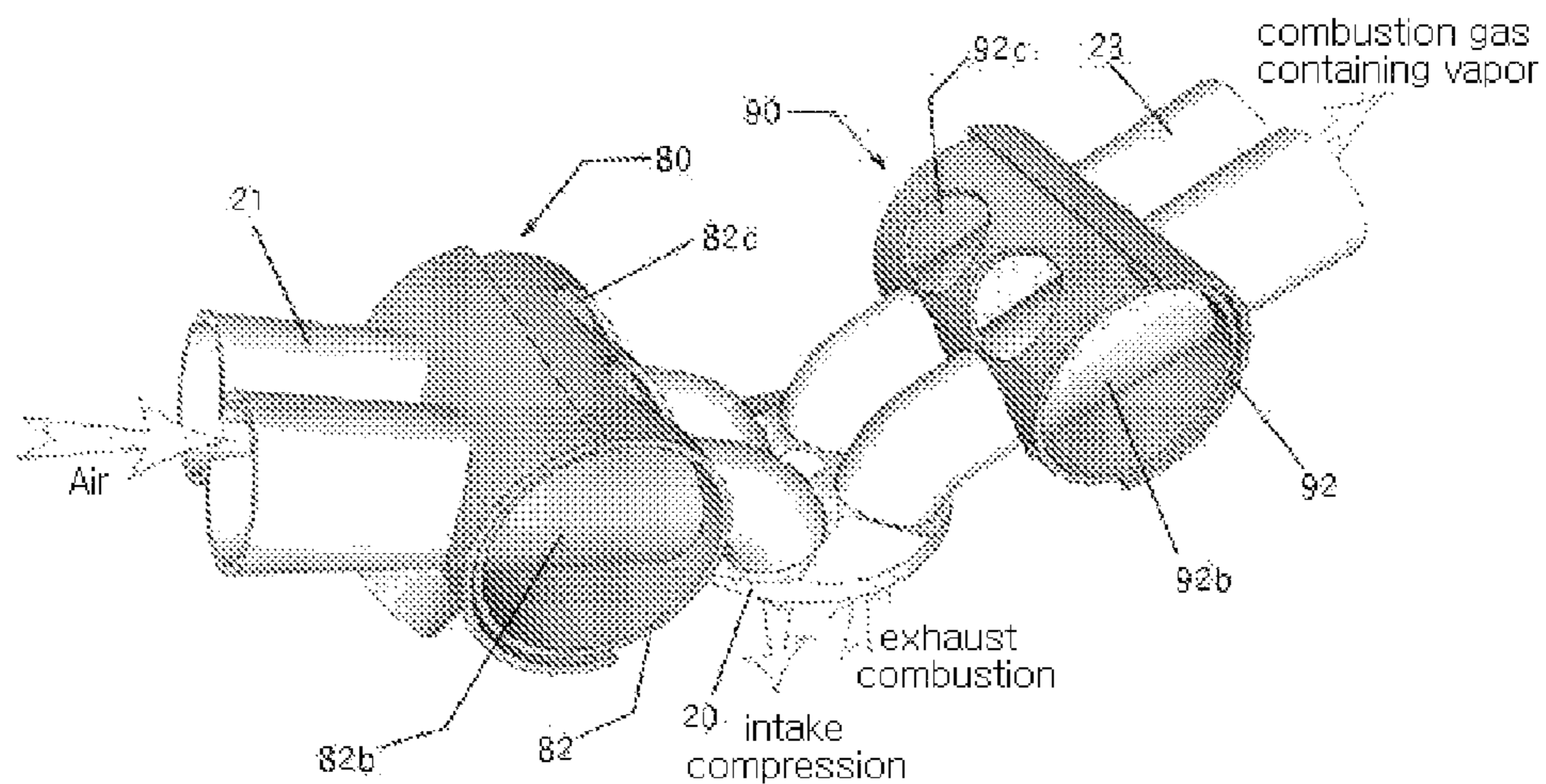


Fig. 12

		8-stroke							
item	4-stroke due to combustion				4-stroke due to evaporation of water				
	intake	compression	combustion	exhaust	re-intake	recompression	expansion	re-exhaust	
1	intake of air								
2		compression							
3			combustion						
4				exhaust of combustion gas					
5					intake of combustion gas				
6						compression of combustion gas			
7							vapor explosion		
8								final exhaust of exhaust gas	

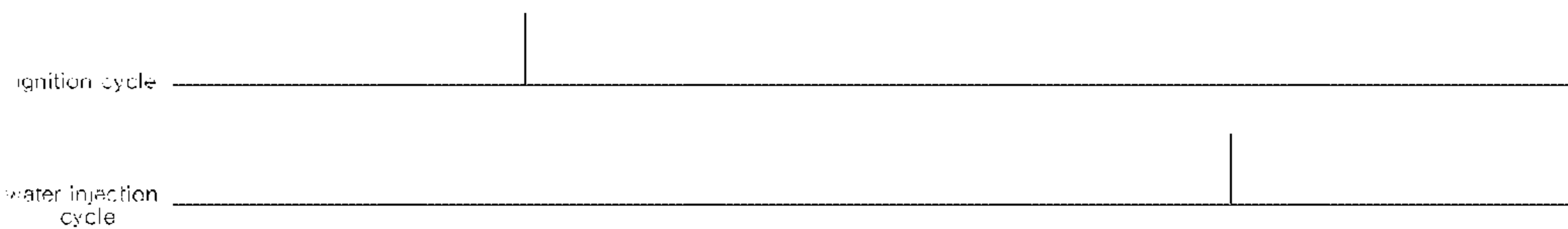


Fig. 13

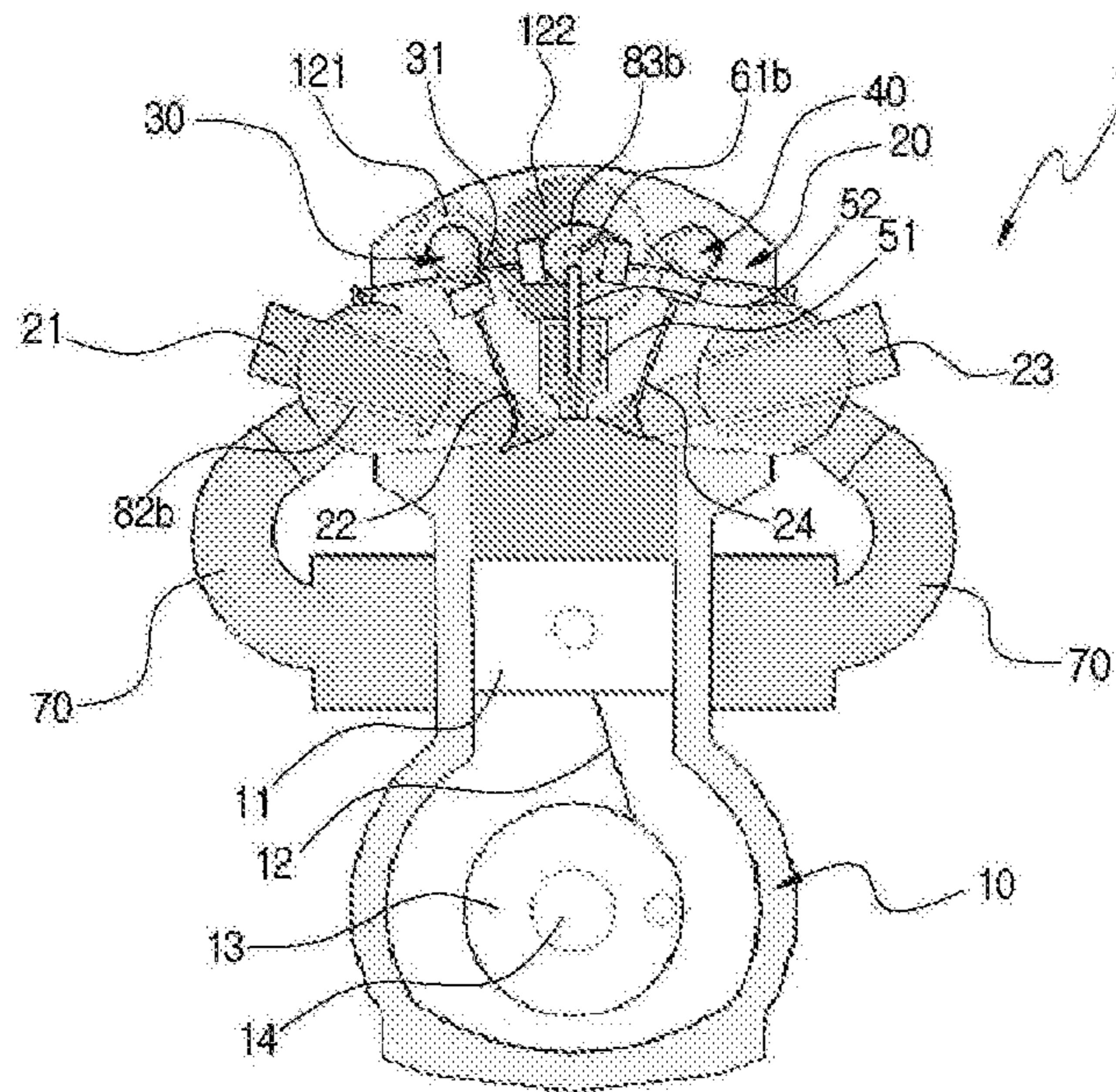


Fig. 14

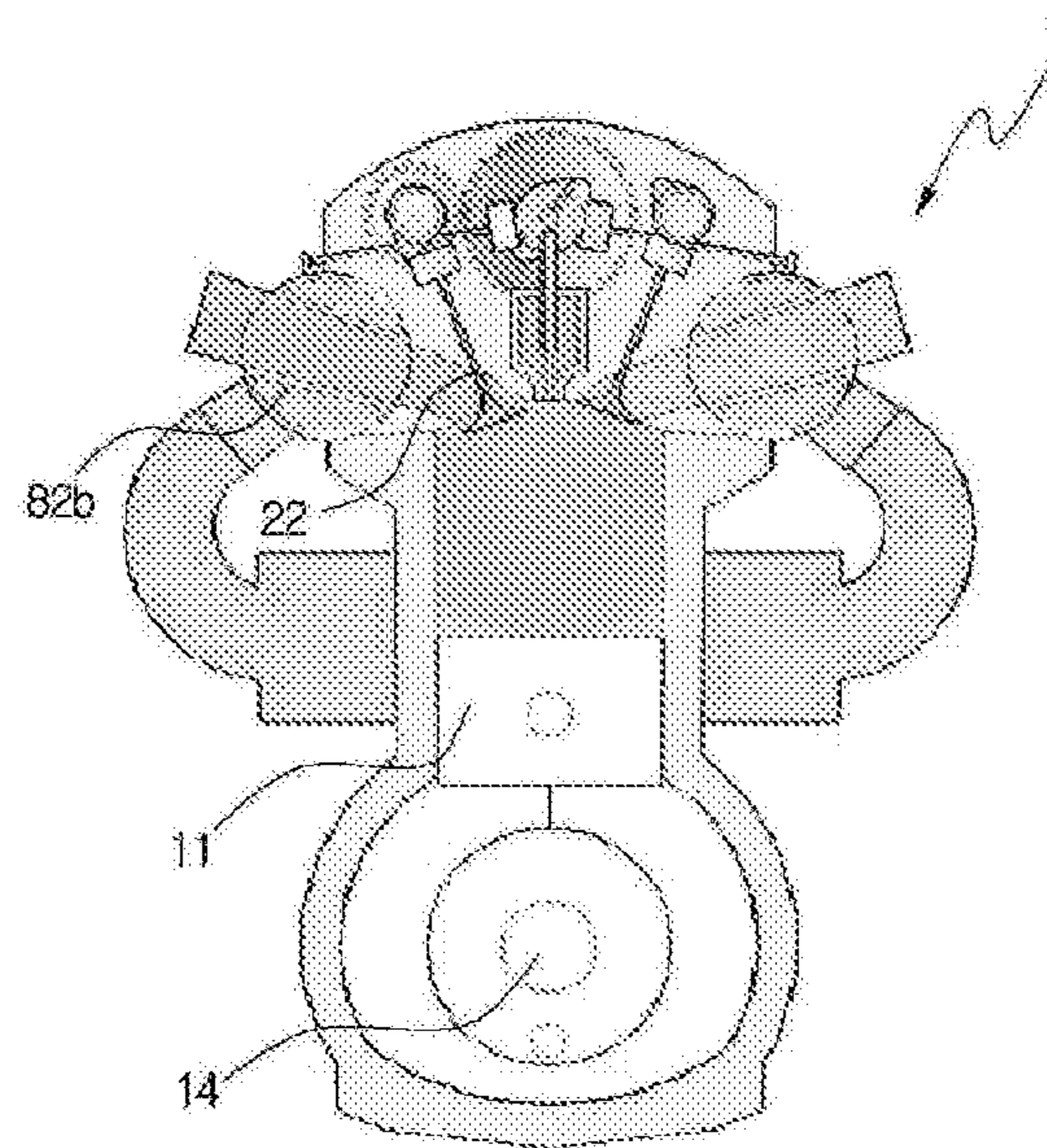


Fig. 15

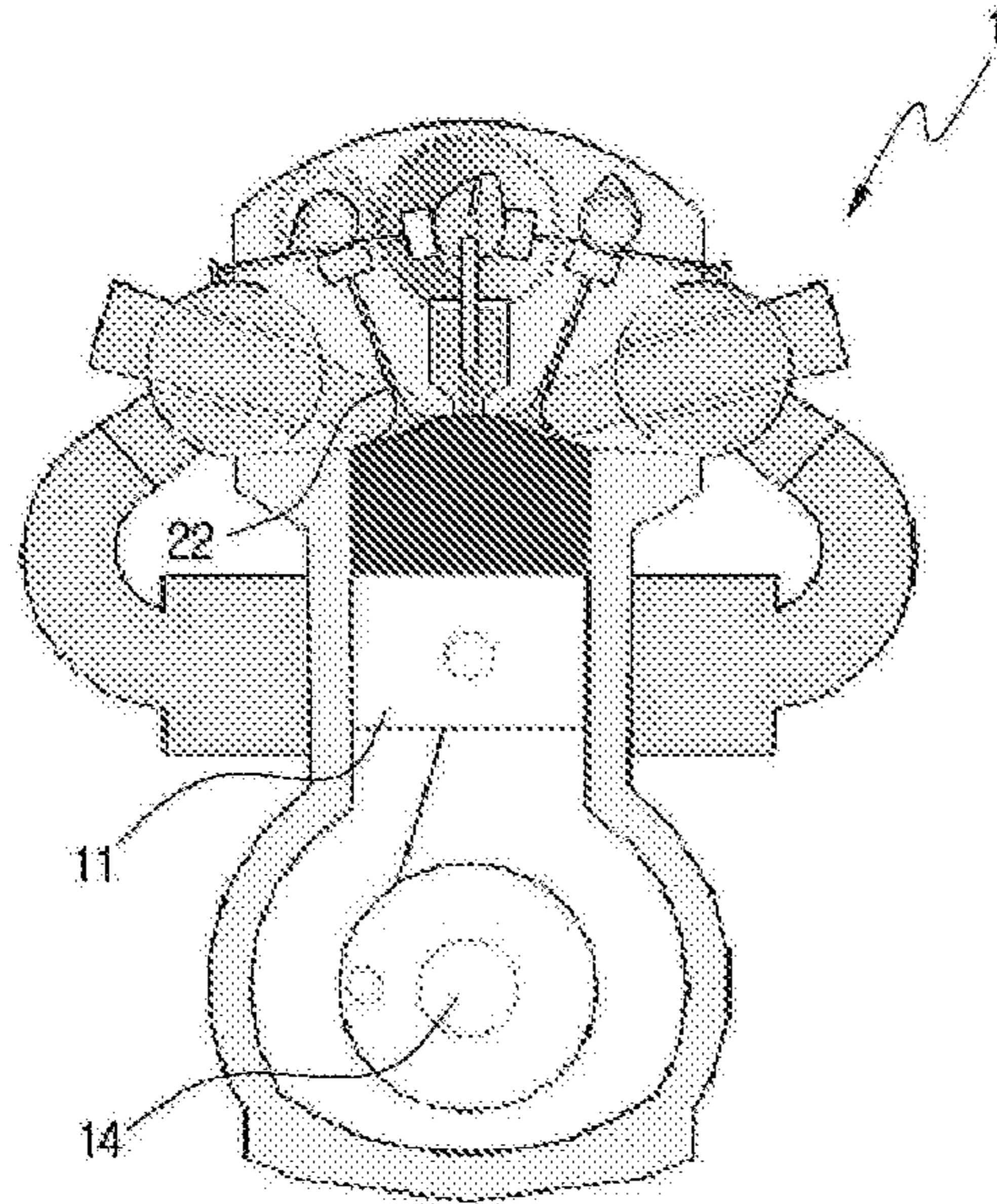


Fig. 16

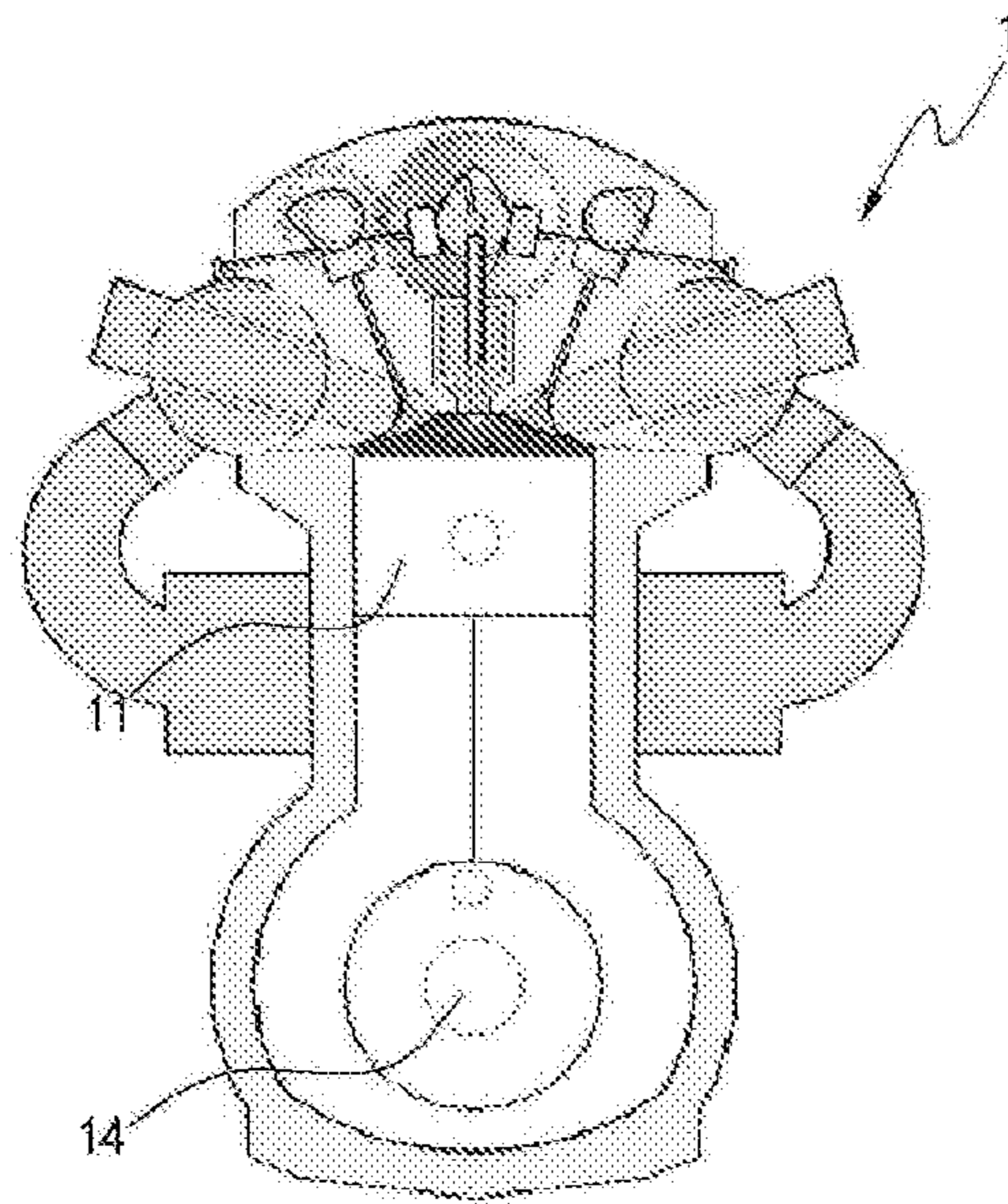


Fig. 17

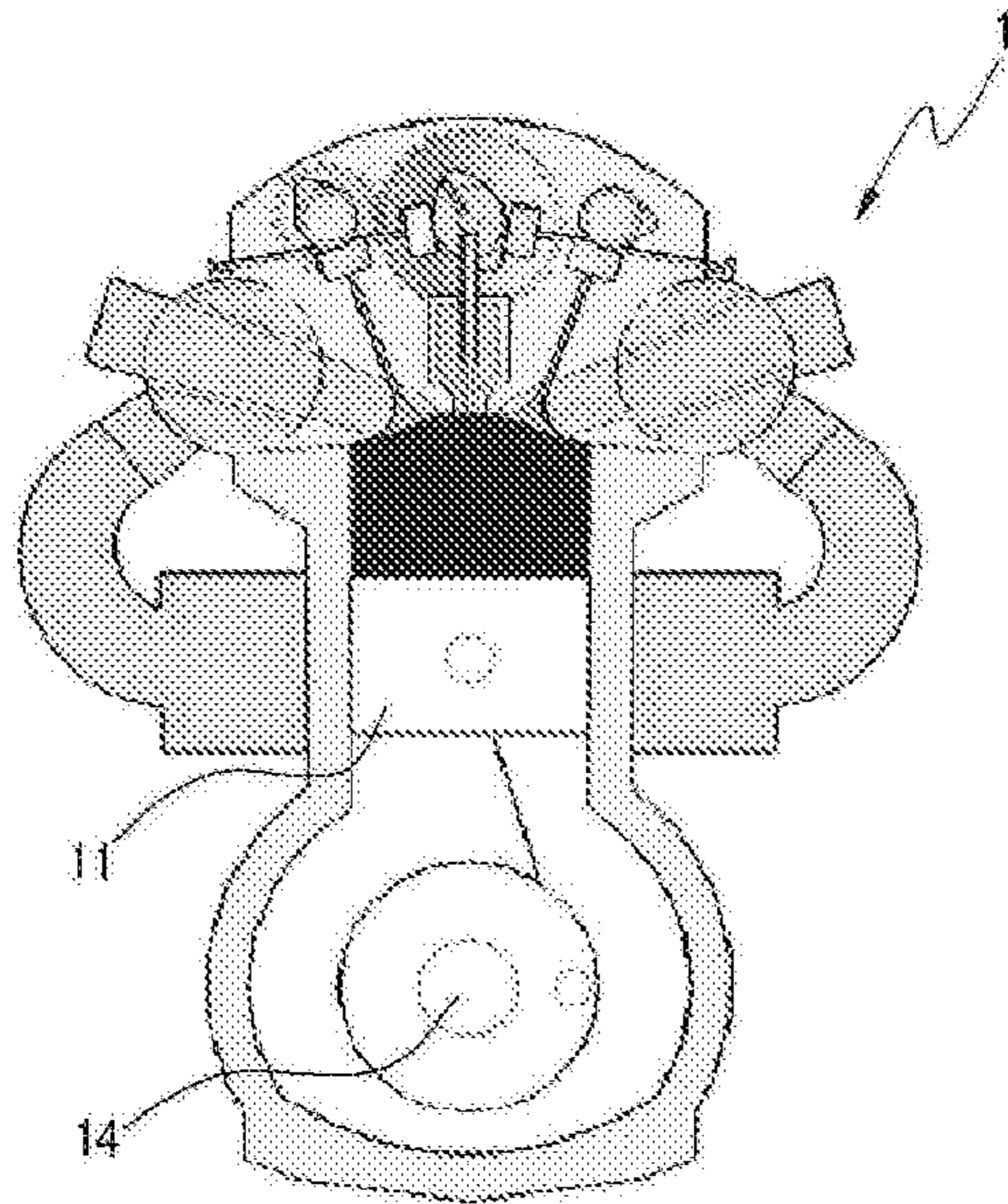


Fig. 18

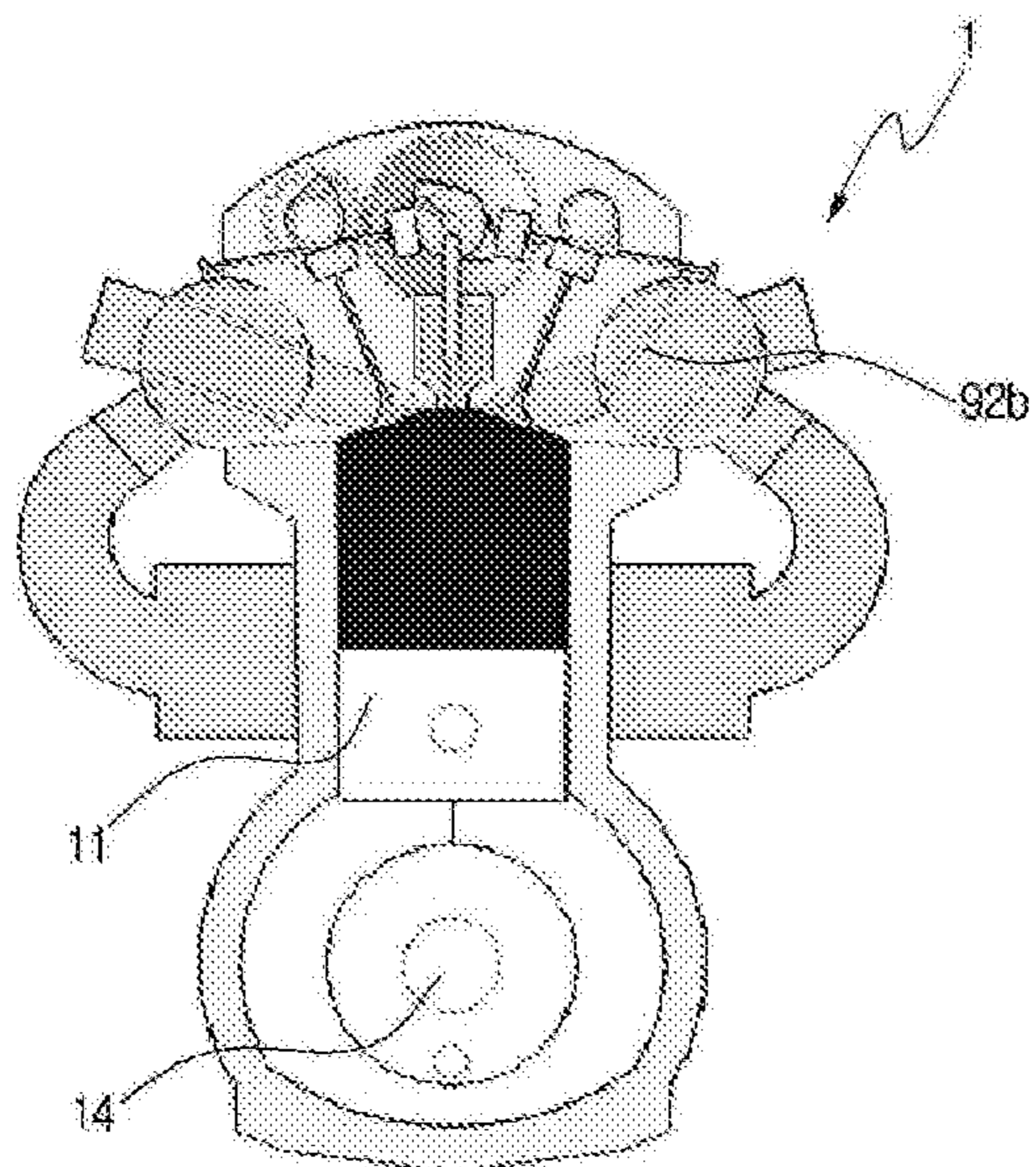


Fig. 19

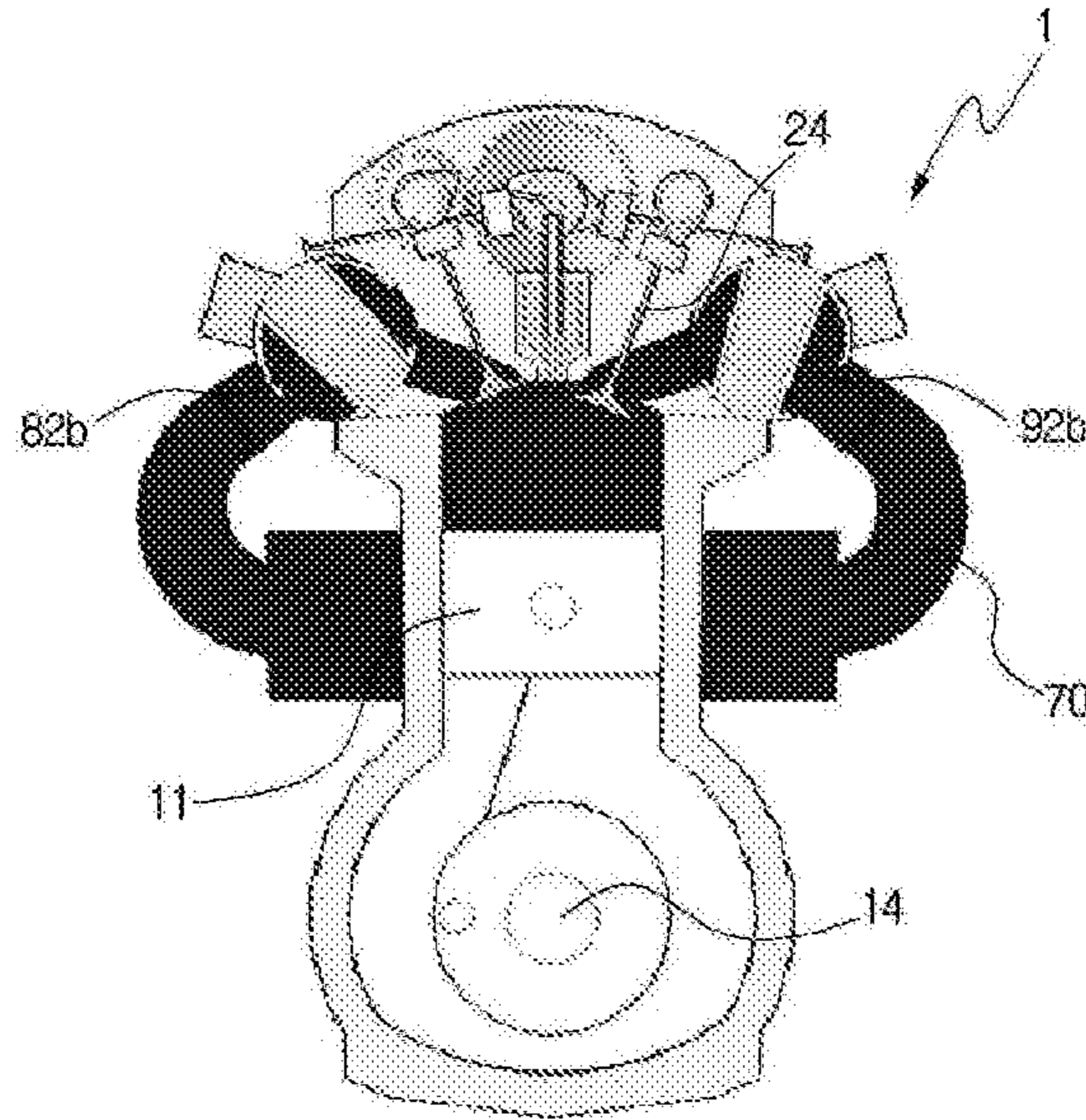


Fig. 20

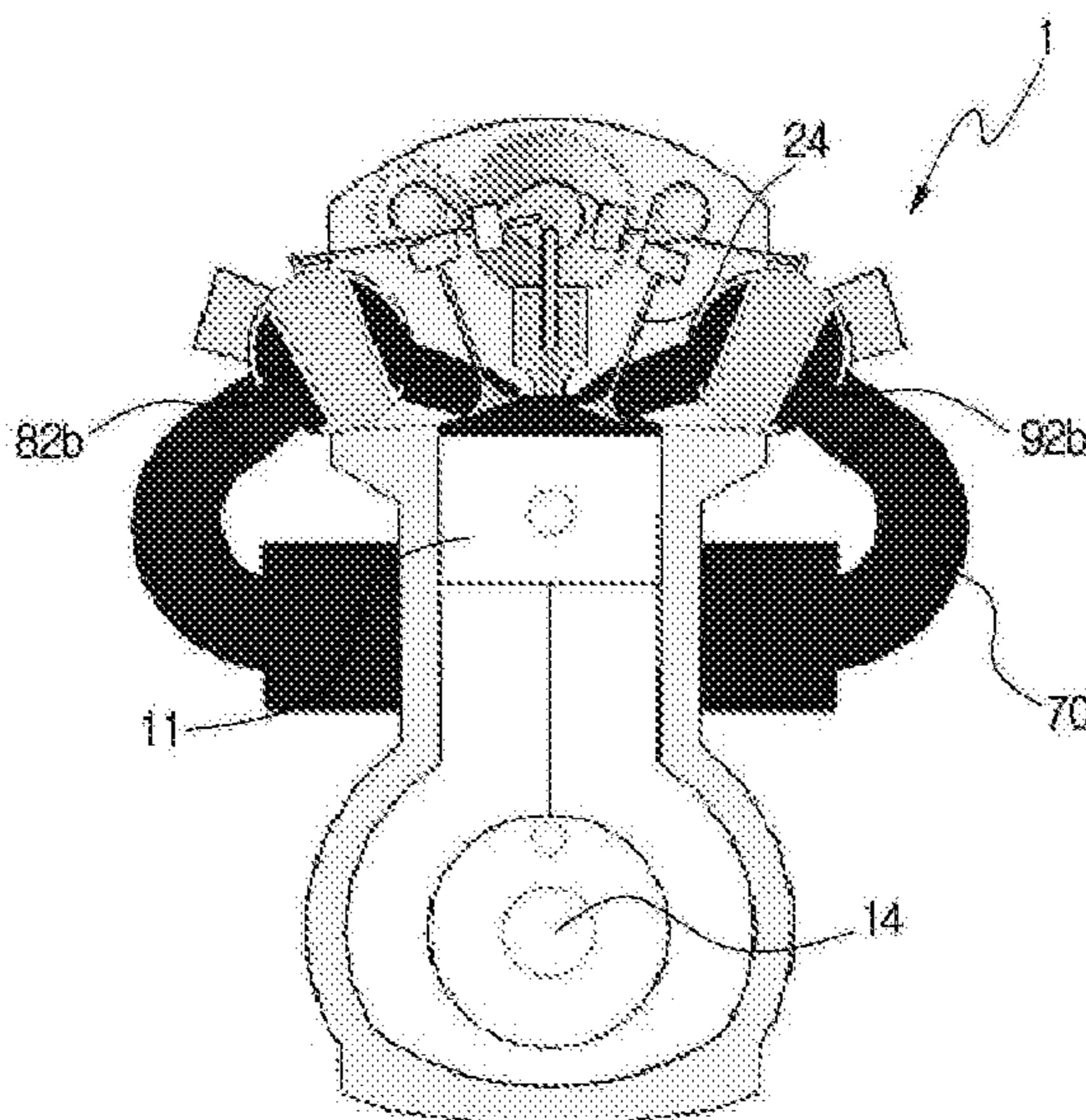


Fig. 21

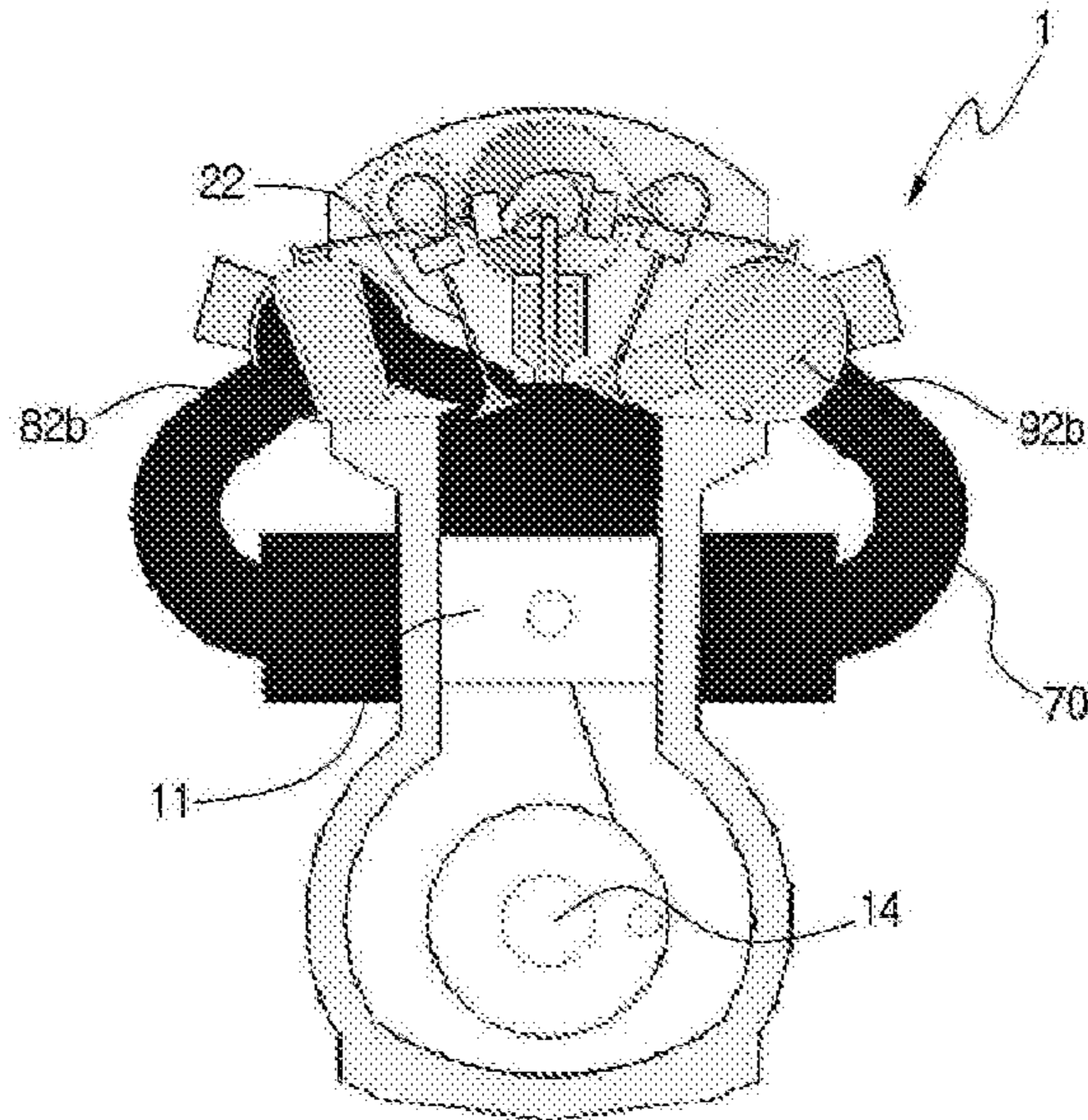


Fig. 22

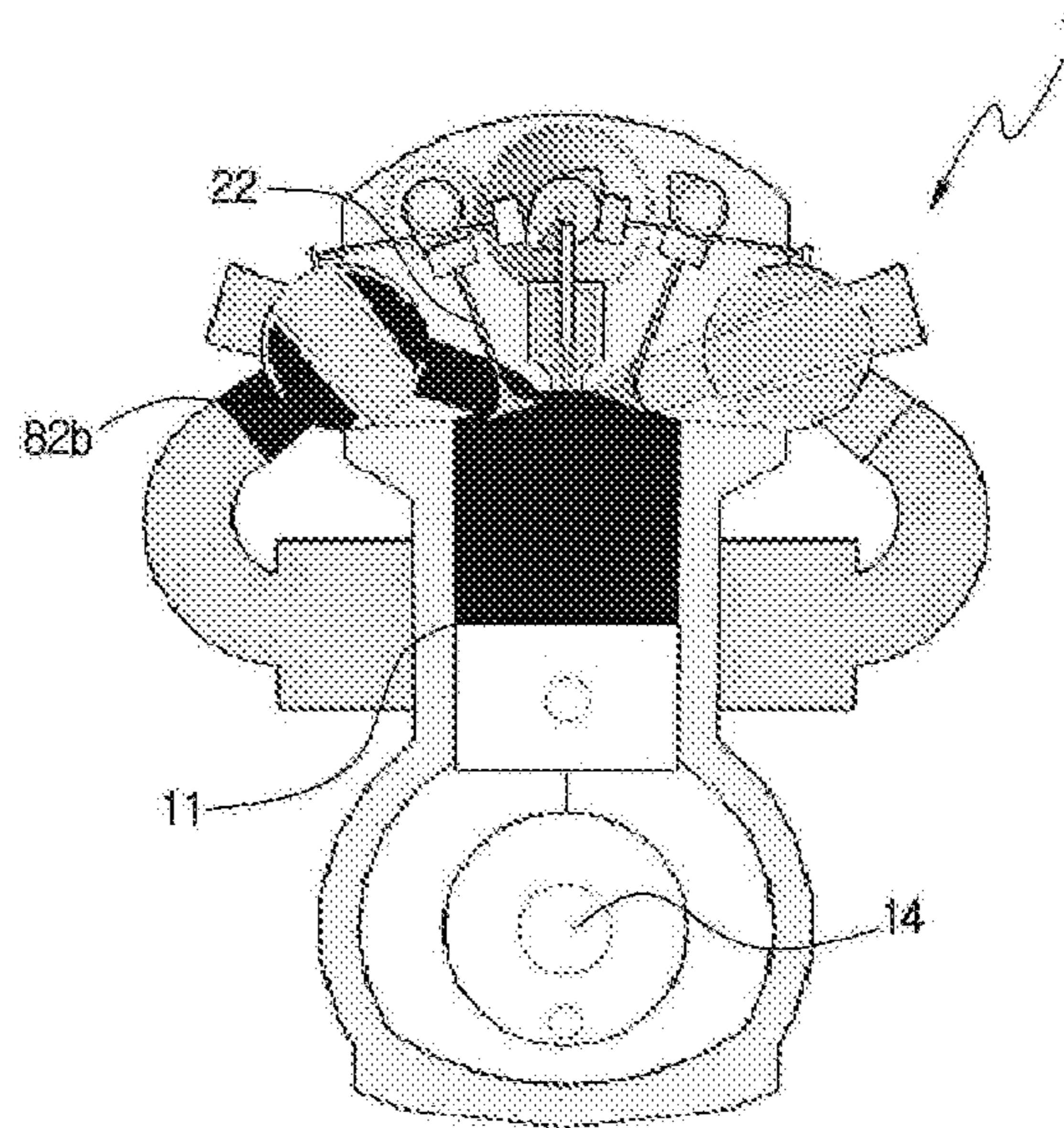


Fig. 23

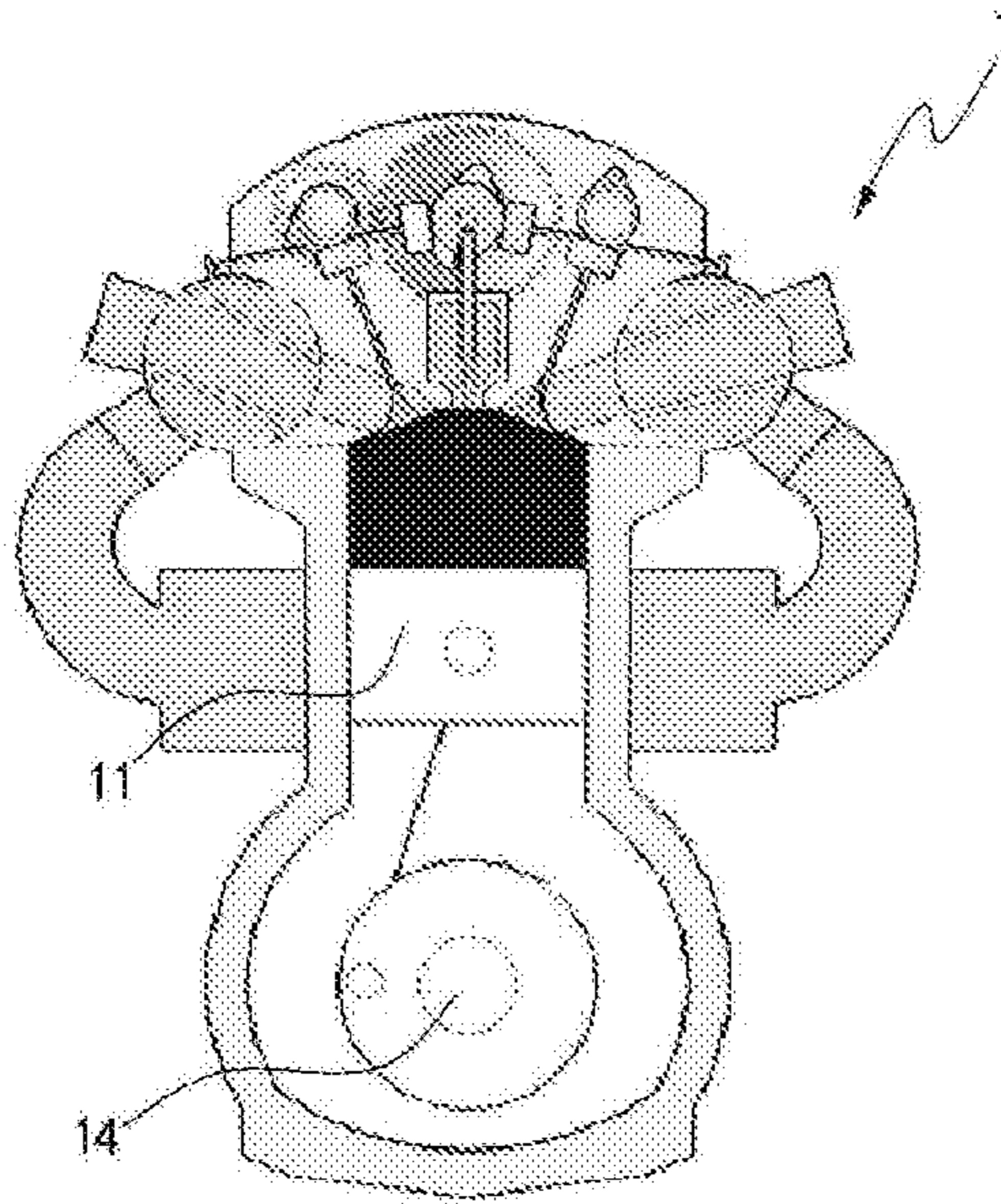


Fig. 24

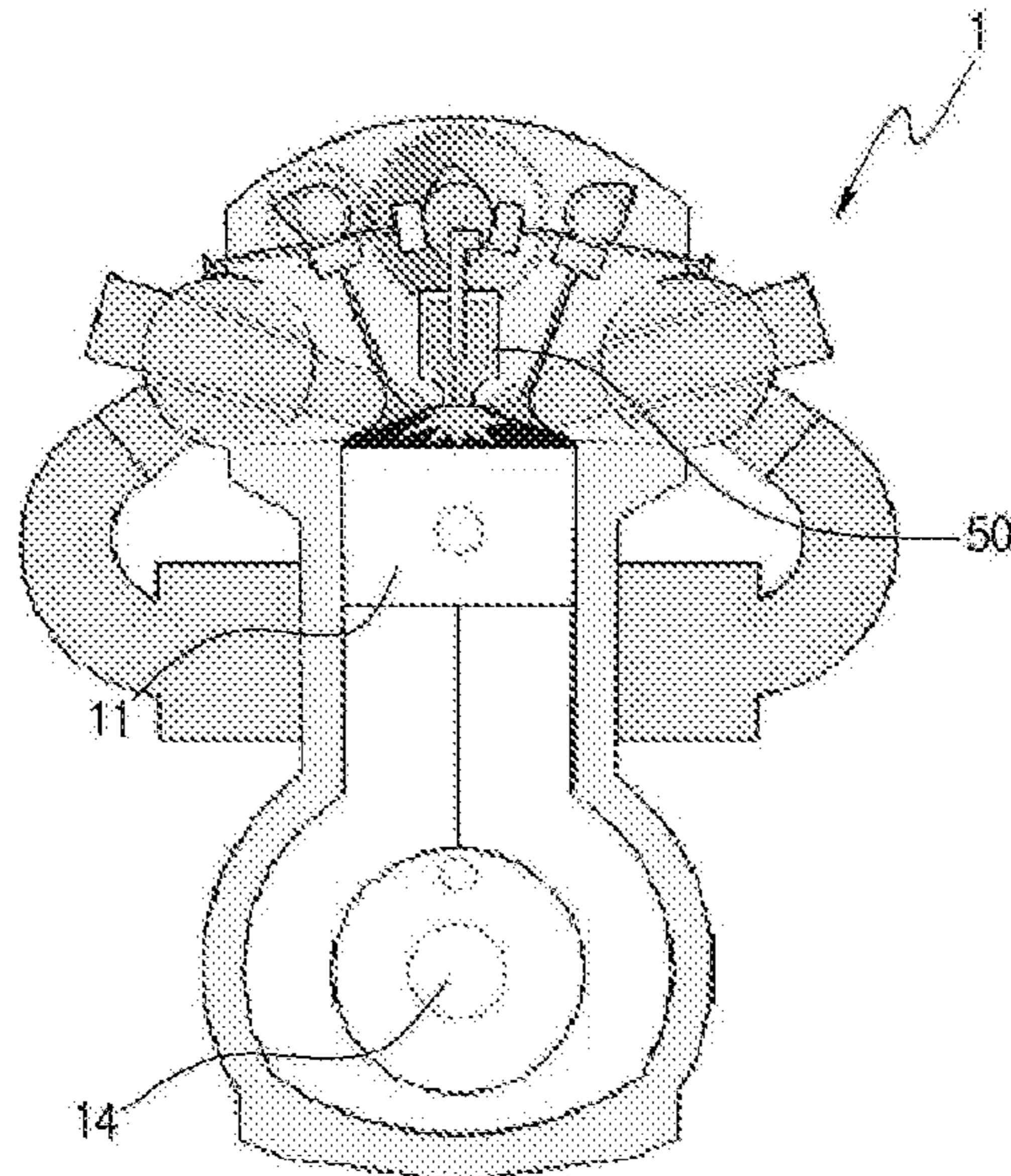


Fig. 25

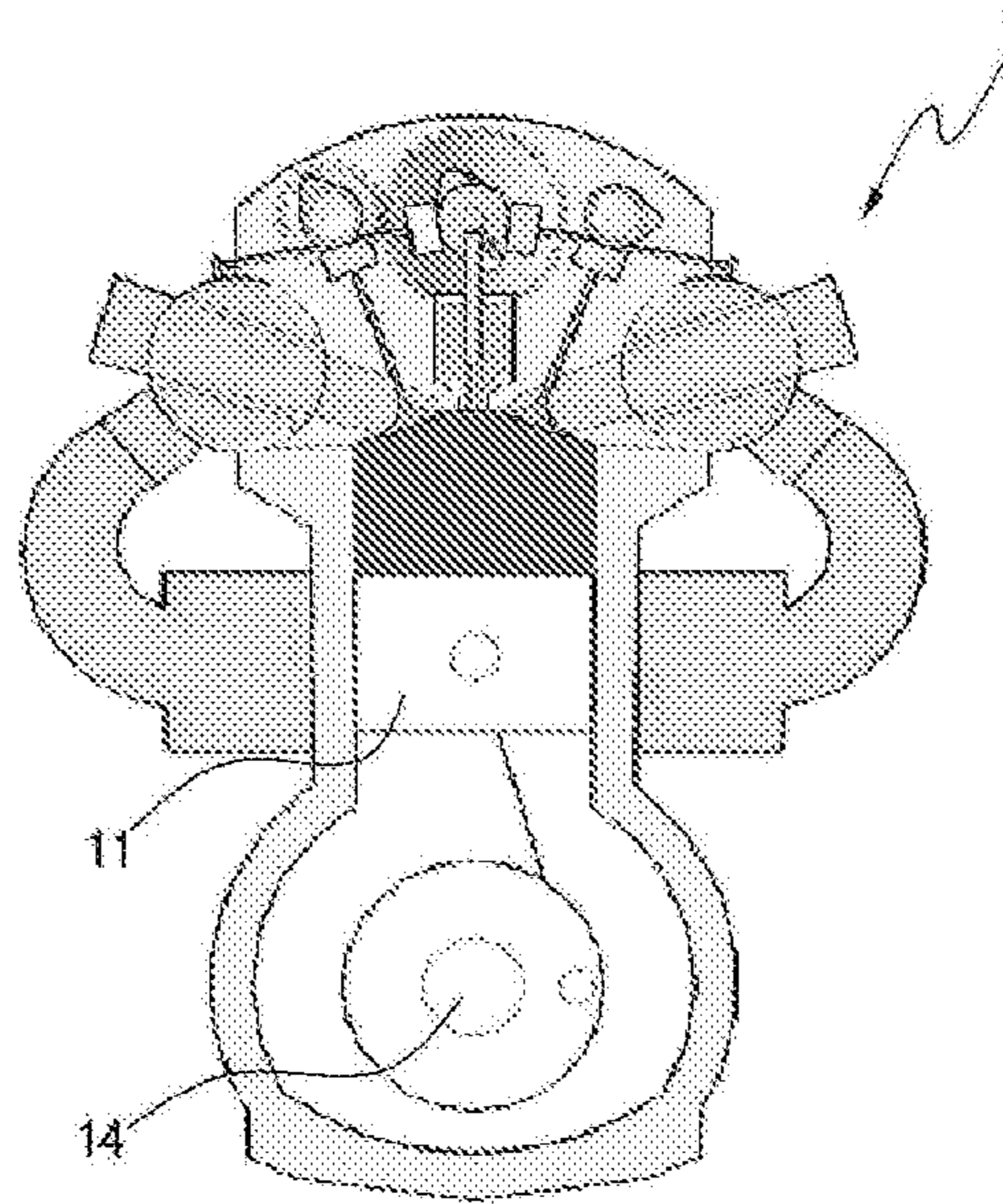


Fig. 26

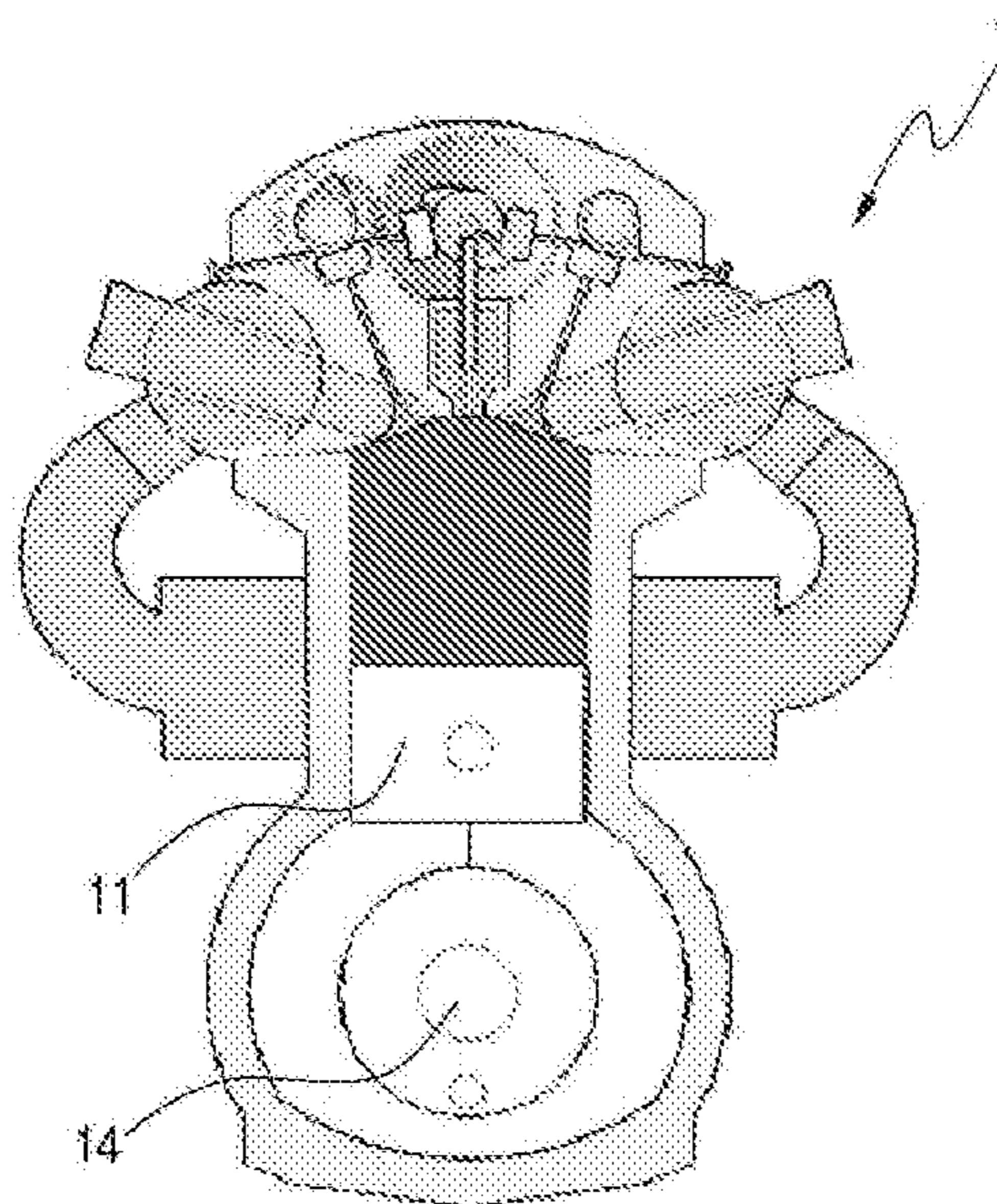


Fig. 27

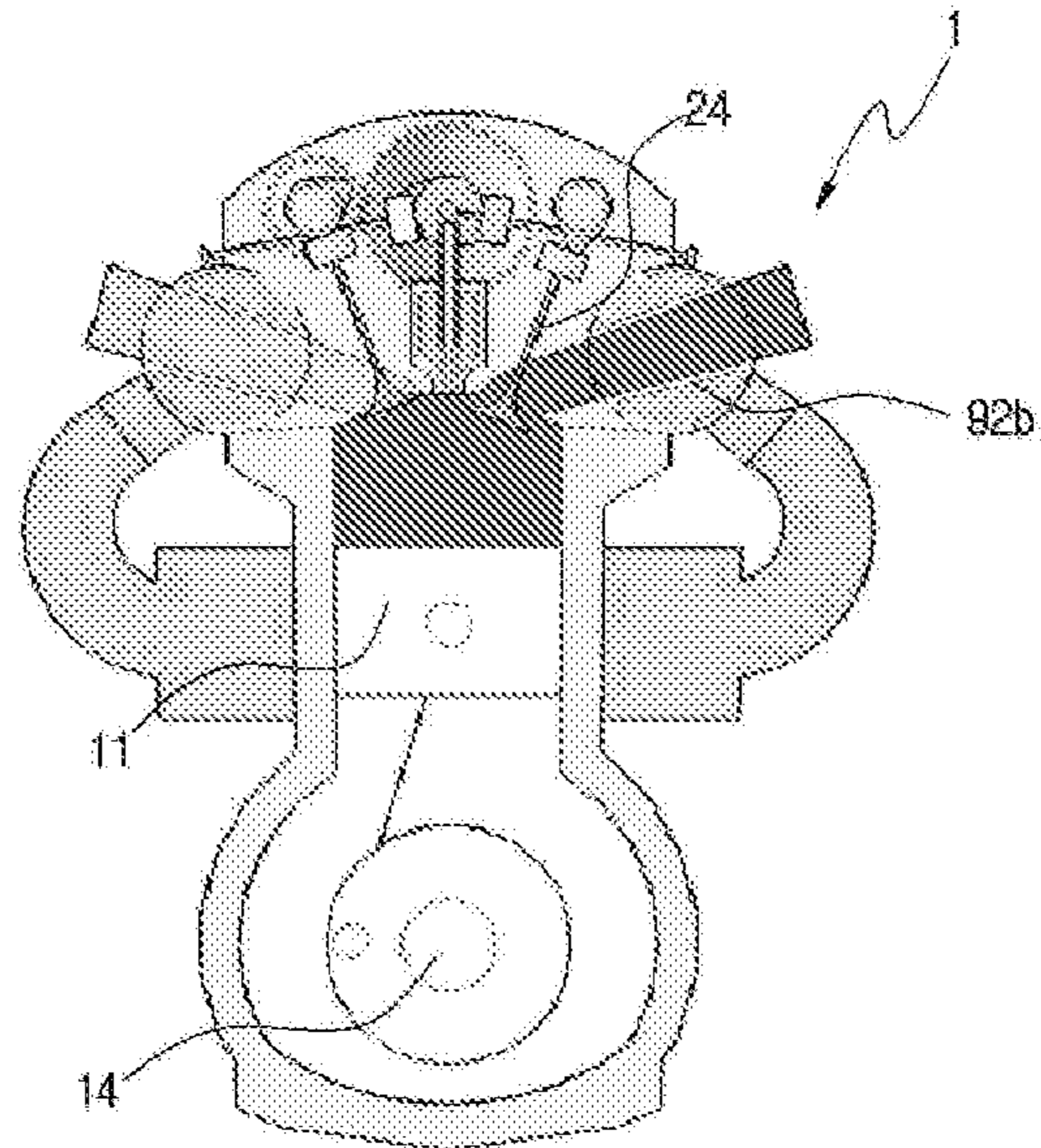
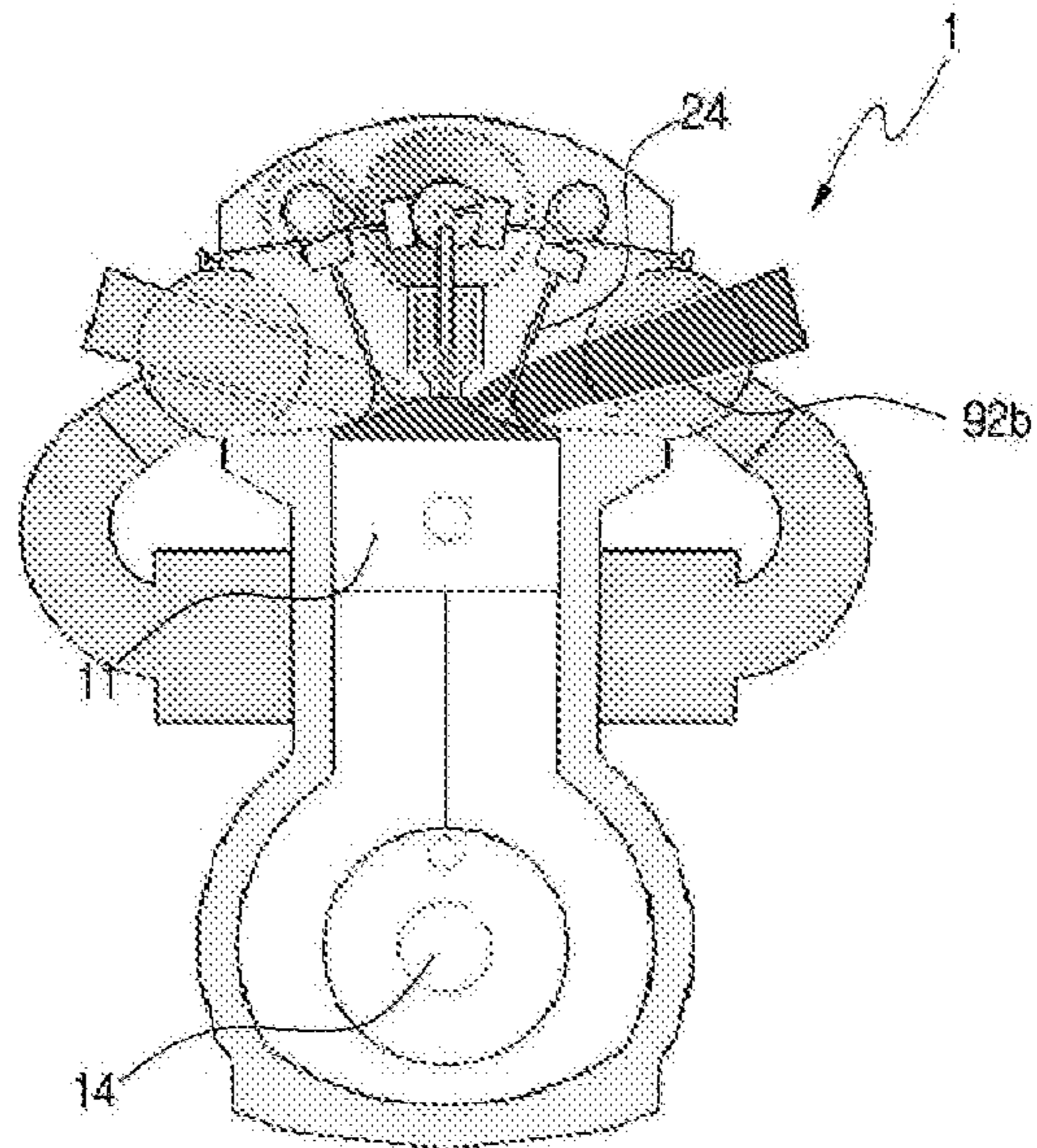


Fig. 28



1
**8-STROKE INTERNAL COMBUSTION
ENGINE**

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a 371 application of International Application No. PCT/KR2009/001168, filed Mar. 9, 2009, which in turn claims priority from Korean Patent Application No. 10-2008-0024307, filed Mar. 17, 2008, both of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to an internal combustion engine that can increase fuel efficiency by alternately repeating power generation using combustion of fuel and evaporation and expansion of injected water.

BACKGROUND ART

In general, internal combustion engines generate power by rotating the crankshaft while repeating four strokes composed of intake, compression, ignition or explosion due to fuel injection, and exhaust of a gas mixture or air. However, when the four strokes are continuously repeated, the fuel is continuously consumed for each four-stroke, such that fuel consumption increases, while the top of the cylinder block is exposed to significantly high temperature due to explosion repeated one time for each four-stroke. Accordingly, it is considerably difficult to cool the cylinder block and environmental pollutants are discharged with the exhaust gas.

A 6-stroke internal combustion engine has been proposed to overcome those problems, which uses power alternately generated by combustion of the fuel and by evaporation and expansion of injected water, by injecting water right into the cylinder block at relatively high temperature due to combustion of the fuel, right after the exhaust stroke.

According to the 6-stroke internal combustion engine in which intake, compression, explosion, exhaust, expansion, and re-exhaust strokes are sequentially repeated, since the fuel is consumed one time for not each four-stroke, but each six-stroke, fuel consumption can be considerably reduced in comparison to the 4-stroke internal combustion engine. Further, since water is injected into the cylinder block heated at high temperature by combustion of the fuel, the cylinder block is automatically cooled and the temperature of the exhaust gas is also decreased, such that it is possible to reduce to amount of environmental pollutants, such as NO_x, which are produced in the exhaust gas.

However, the 6-stroke internal combustion engine having the configuration described above should generate power, using only expansion due to evaporation of the water, after generating by using combustion of the fuel. Therefore, the force produced by the expansion due to evaporation of the water is not enough to push the piston, such that sufficient power is not generated.

Further, in the 6-stroke internal combustion engine of the related art, thermal efficiency decreases, because the high-temperature exhaust gas produced by combustion of the fuel is discharged without being re-circulated.

In addition, the 6-stroke internal combustion engine of the related art usually injects water by using an electronic valve, and in this case reliability of water injection timing is deteriorated.

2
DISCLOSURE

Technical Problem

5 It is an object of the present invention to provide an 8-stroke internal combustion engine that can considerably increase fuel efficiency, by alternately repeating four strokes due to combustion of the fuel and four strokes due to evaporation and expansion of injected water to generate power.

10 It is another object of the present invention to provide an 8-stroke internal combustion engine that can significantly increase thermal efficiency by re-circulating the combustion gas right after four strokes due to combustion of the fuel and re-taking and recompressing the combustion gas in the cylinder block, and then injecting water to consistently generate power of a predetermined level, while collecting waste heat from the combustion gas.

15 It is another object of the present invention to provide an 8-stroke internal combustion engine that can considerably increase reliability of water injection timing, by using a relatively simple mechanical mechanism that is operated with rotation of the crankshaft.

Technical Solution

25 The objects of the present invention are accomplished by providing an 8-stroke internal combustion engine, which includes: a cylinder block in which rotational power is generated by a crankshaft rotated by up-down reciprocation of a piston that is transmitted through a connecting rod; a cylinder head connected to the top of the cylinder block and having one side connected with an intake manifold opened/closed by intake valves and the other side connected with exhaust manifolds opened/closed by an exhaust valve; a first camshaft arranged above the cylinder head, rotating with the rotation of the crankshaft, and having integral intake cams operating the intake valves; a second camshaft arranged above the cylinder head, rotating with the rotation of the crankshaft, and having integral exhaust cams operating the exhaust valves; a water injection unit disposed above the cylinder head and injecting water into the cylinder block; a third camshaft arranged above the cylinder head, rotating with the rotation of the first camshaft, and having an injection mechanism operating the water injection unit; combustion gas bypass pipes connecting the intake manifold with the exhaust manifold; a combustion gas intake controller disposed in the intake manifold and connected with the combustion gas bypass pipe to selectively control intake of a gas mixture or air or re-intake of combustion gas; and a combustion gas exhaust controller disposed in the exhaust manifold and connected with the combustion gas bypass pipe to selectively control exhaust or re-circulation of combustion gas.

30 According to a preferred feature of the present invention, an ignition plug or a fuel injector is disposed at the center of the cylinder head.

35 According to a more preferred feature of the present invention, the first camshaft and the second camshaft are rotated with the rotation of the crankshaft by a first power transmission mechanism including a first sprocket fixed to the crankshaft, a second sprocket fixed to the first camshaft, a third sprocket fixed to the second camshaft, and a power chain linking the sprockets.

40 According to a more preferred feature of the present invention, as the second and third sprockets rotate one time for two-time rotation of the first sprocket, the first camshaft and the second camshaft rotate one time with two-time rotation of the crankshaft.

According to a more preferred feature of the present invention, the third camshaft is rotated with the rotation of the first camshaft by a second power transmission mechanism including a first gear fixed to the first camshaft and a second gear fixed to the third camshaft and engaged with the first gear.

According to a more preferred feature of the present invention, as the second gear rotates one time for two-time rotation of the first gear, the third camshaft is rotated one time with two-time rotation of the first camshaft.

According to a more preferred feature of the present invention, the combustion gas intake controller includes: a first semicircular plate fixed to one side of the intake manifold; a first rotating drum rotatably fitted on a first rotating shaft while being externally tangent between the first semicircular plate and the other side of the intake manifold, having a first communicating pipe therein for selectively communicating both sides of the intake manifold in accordance with the rotational direction, and having first communication holes selectively communicating the combustion bypass pipe with the other side of the intake manifold in accordance with the rotational direction, through the outer circumference; and a first actuator rotating the first rotating drum by rotating the first rotating shaft of the first rotating drum.

According to a more preferred feature of the present invention, the first actuator includes: a first spur gear fixed to the first rotating shaft of the first rotating drum; an intake control cam integrally formed with the third camshaft; an intake control rod elastically biased by a coil spring such that one end is in contact with the intake control cam, and linearly moved by the rotation of the third camshaft; and a first rack gear integrally formed at the other end of the intake control rod and engaged with the first spur gear.

According to a more preferred feature of the present invention, the combustion gas exhaust controller includes: a second semicircular plate fixed to one side of the exhaust manifold and communicating with the combustion gas bypass pipe; a second rotating drum rotatably fitted on a second rotating shaft while being externally tangent between the second semicircular plate and the other side of the exhaust manifold, having a second communicating pipe therein for selectively communicating both sides of the exhaust manifold in accordance with the rotational direction, and having second communication holes selectively communicating the combustion bypass pipe with the other side of the exhaust manifold in accordance with the rotational direction, through the outer circumference; and a second actuator connected to the second rotating shaft and rotating the second rotating drum.

According to a more preferred feature of the present invention, the second actuator includes: a second spur gear fixed to the second rotating shaft of the second rotating drum; the exhaust control cam integrally formed with the third camshaft; an exhaust control rod elastically biased by a coil spring such that one end is in contact with the exhaust control cam, and linearly moved by the rotation of the third camshaft; and a second rack gear integrally formed at the other end of the exhaust control rod and engaged with the second spur gear.

According to a more preferred feature of the present invention, the water injection unit includes: an injection cylinder disposed on the cylinder head and having one side connected with a water supply and having the lower end where an injection nozzle is disposed; and a nozzle opening/closing rod rotatably combined with the injection cylinder and elastically biased in the closing direction of the injection nozzle while rotating to close the injection nozzle with operation of a water injection operating mechanism.

According to a more preferred feature of the present invention, the water injection operating mechanism has a protrusion protruding from one side of the top of the nozzle opening/closing rod and a trigger formed on the intake control cam and rotating the nozzle opening/closing rod by pushing the protrusion in accordance with the rotation of the intake control cam.

According to a more preferred feature of the present invention, the rigger rotates the nozzle opening/closing rod to open the injection nozzle, after re-intake and recompression of the re-circulated combustion gas is completed in the cylinder block.

Advantageous Effects

According to the 8-stroke internal combustion engine of the present invention, power is generated by four strokes due to combustion of the fuel and four strokes due to evaporation and expansion of injected water which are alternately repeated, such that it is possible to considerably increase fuel efficiency in comparison with 4-stroke or 6-stroke internal combustion engines in the related art.

Further, the same power as the four strokes due to the evaporation and the expansion of the injected water is generated in the four strokes due to the combustion of the fuel, by re-circulating, re-taking, and recompressing the combustion gas and then injecting the water, right after the four strokes due to the combustion of the fuel; therefore, it is possible to continuously generate a predetermined level of power, even if the four strokes due to the combustion of the fuel and the four strokes due to the evaporation and expansion of the injected water are alternately repeated.

Furthermore, it is possible to significantly increase thermal efficiency by collecting waste heat from the combustion gas by re-circulating the combustion gas right after the four strokes due to the combustion of the fuel.

Further, since the water injection unit, which operates with rotation of the crankshaft, injects water only when the re-circulated combustion gas is compressed, by using a relatively simple mechanism, it is possible to prevent malfunction and considerably increase reliability in water injection timing.

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a view schematically showing the structure of an 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to the present invention;

FIGS. 2 and 3 are views showing the upper structure of the 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a view showing the interoperation of a crankshaft, and first, second, and third camshafts in the 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to the present invention;

FIGS. 5 and 6 are views illustrating the operation of a water injection unit in the 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to the present invention;

FIGS. 7 and 8 are views illustrating the operation of an intake valve, an exhaust valve, and first and second actuators in the 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to the present invention;

FIGS. 9 to 11 are views illustrating the operation of a combustion gas intake controller and a combustion gas exhaust controller in the 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to the present invention;

FIG. 12 is a flowchart illustrating the strokes of the 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to the present invention; and

FIGS. 13 to 28 are flowcharts illustrating the order of entire operation of the 8-stroke internal combustion engine accord-

5

ing to the present invention, in accordance with each 90° rotation angle of the crankshaft.

BEST MODE

Hereinafter, preferred embodiments of the present invention are described in detail with reference to the accompanying drawings. The embodiments are provided to explain in detail the present invention such that those skilled in the art can easily implement the present invention and do not limit the spirit and scope of the present invention.

FIG. 1 is a view schematically showing the structure of an 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to the present invention, FIGS. 2 and 3 are view showing the upper structure of the 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to the present invention, FIG. 4 is a view showing the interoperation of a crankshaft, and first, second, and third camshafts in the 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to the present invention, FIGS. 5 and 6 are views illustrating the operation of a water injection unit in the 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to the present invention, FIGS. 7 and 8 are views illustrating the operation of an intake valve, an exhaust valve, and first and second actuator in the 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to the present invention, and FIGS. 9 to 11 are views illustrating the operation of a combustion gas intake controller and a combustion gas exhaust controller in the 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to the present invention.

An 8-stroke internal combustion engine 1 according to the present invention can generate power at high efficiency by alternately repeating four strokes due to combustion of the fuel and four strokes due to evaporation and expansion of injected water while re-circulating combustion gas, re-taking and recompressing the combustion gas in a cylinder block and then injecting water, right after the four strokes due to combustion of the fuel, and as shown in FIGS. 1 to 12, includes: a cylinder block 10 in which rotational power is generated by a crankshaft 14 rotated by up-down reciprocation of a piston 11 that is transmitted through a connecting rod 12; a cylinder head 20 connected to the top of the cylinder block 10 and having one side connected with an intake manifold 21 opened/closed by intake valves 22 and the other side connected with exhaust manifolds 23 opened/closed by an exhaust valve 24; a first camshaft 30 arranged above the cylinder head 20, rotating with the rotation of the crankshaft 14, and having integral intake cams 31 operating the intake valves 22; a second camshaft 40 arranged above the cylinder head 20, rotating with the rotation of the crankshaft 14, and having integral exhaust cams 41 operating the exhaust valves 24; a water injection unit 50 disposed above the cylinder head 20 and injecting water into the cylinder block 10; a third camshaft 60 arranged above the cylinder head 20, rotating with the rotation of the first camshaft 30, and having an integral water injection mechanism 61 operating the water injection unit 50; combustion gas bypass pipes 70 connecting the intake manifold 21 with the exhaust manifold 23; a combustion gas intake controller 80 disposed in the intake manifold 21 and connected with the combustion gas bypass pipe 70 to selectively controls intake of a gas mixture (for a gasoline engine) or air (for diesel engine) or re-intake of combustion gas; and a combustion gas exhaust controller 90 disposed in the exhaust manifold 23 and connected with the combustion gas bypass pipe 70 to selectively control exhaust or re-circulation of combustion gas.

In this configuration, the cylinder block 10 provides a space where the combustion of the fuel and the evaporation of the water alternately occur and guide the piston 11 reciprocating up/down, which the piston 11 is connected to be able to reciprocate up/down, one end of the connecting rod 12 is connected to the lower portion of the piston, one side of the crank 13 is connected to the other end of the connecting rod

6

12, and the crankshaft 14 rotatably combined with the cylinder block 10 is integrally fitted in the crank 13, such that the up-down reciprocation of the piston 11 is transmitted through the connecting rod 12 and rotates the crank shaft 14, thereby generating rotational power.

The cylinder head 20 is connected to the cylinder block 10 to supply a gas mixture, air, or combustion gas and discharge the combustion gas such that combustion of the fuel and evaporation of the water alternately occur while keep the upper portion of the cylinder block 10 airtight, and has one side connected with the intake manifold 21 that is opened/closed by the intake valves 22 and takes a gas mixture or air into the cylinder block 10, the other side connected with the exhaust manifold 23 that is opened/closed by the exhaust valves 24 and discharge the combustion gas or combustion gas containing vapor outside the cylinder block 10, and the center where an ignition plug (not shown) that ignites by artificially making flame when the intake gas mixture is compressed is provided (for a gasoline engine) or a fuel injector (not shown) that injects fuel to explode when the intake air is compressed (for a diesel engine). The intake valves 22 are elastically biased to close the intake manifold 21 by springs etc., and the exhaust valves 24 are elastically biased to close the exhaust manifold 23 by springs etc. The ignition plug or the fuel injector, which is not shown in the drawings, is fitted in a hole 25 formed at the center of the cylinder head 20.

It is preferable that the intake manifold 21 and the exhaust manifold make a pair of two pieces adjacent each other to increase intake and exhaust efficiency, in which the intake valves 22 and the exhaust valves 24 respectively make a pair, and though described below, the intake cams 31 and the exhaust cams 41 make a pair, respectively.

The first camshaft 30 is disposed above the cylinder head 20 described above. The first camshaft 30 rotates with the rotation of the crankshaft 14 and has the intake cams 31 integrally formed to push the intake valves 22 while integrally rotating with the rotation of the first cam shaft 30 such that the intake manifold 21 is opened and intake stroke of a gas mixture or air and re-intake stroke of combustion gas can occur.

The second cam shaft 40 is disposed in parallel with the first camshaft 30 above the cylinder head 20 described above. The second camshaft 40 rotates with the rotation of the crankshaft 14 and has the exhaust cams 41 integrally formed to push the exhaust valves 24 while integrally rotating with the rotation of the crankshaft 14 such that the exhaust manifold 23 is opened and the exhaust stroke of the combustion gas or the re-exhaustion stroke of the combustion gas contained with vapor can occur.

The first camshaft 30 and the second camshaft 40 are rotated with the rotation of the crankshaft 14 by a first power transmission mechanism 110 and the first power transmission mechanism 110, as shown in FIG. 4, includes a first sprocket 111 fixed to the crankshaft 14, a second sprocket 112 fixed to the first camshaft 30, a third sprocket 113 fixed to the second camshaft 40, and a power chain 114 linking the sprockets 111, 112, 113.

The first camshaft 30 rotates with the rotation of the crankshaft 14 such that it rotates one time for two-time rotation of the crankshaft 14, as the second sprocket 112 rotates one time for two-time rotation of the first sprocket 111, in order that the intake stroke of a gas mixture of air and the re-intake stroke of

combustion gas occurs one time for each four-stroke, respectively, in the entire eight strokes that is made by four-time rotation of the crankshaft **14**.

The second camshaft **40** rotates with the rotation of the cranks shaft **14** such that it rotates one time for two-time rotation of the crankshaft **14**, as the third sprocket **113** rotates one time for two-time rotation of the first sprocket **111**, in order that the exhaust stroke of combustion gas or the re-exhaustion stroke of combustion gas containing vapor occurs one time for each four-stroke, respectively, in the entire eight strokes that is made by four-time rotation of the crankshaft **14**.

Further, the maximum diameter points of the intake cams **31** on the first camshaft **30** and the exhaust cams **41** on the second camshaft **40** are spaced at 270° from each other in the rotational direction, such that the intake stroke of gas mixture or air is made by the intake cams **31** and the exhaust stroke of combustion gas is made by the exhaust cams **41** after three strokes, while the re-intake stroke of combustion gas is made by the intake cams **31** and the re-exhaust stroke of combustion gas containing vapor is made by the exhaust cams **41** after three strokes.

The water injection unit **50** is disposed above the cylinder head **20** described above and the water injection unit **50** injects water into the cylinder block **10** after combustion gas is re-circulated, and re-taken and recompressed in the cylinder block **10** such that power is generated by evaporation and expansion of the water, after power is generated by combustion of the fuel. The water injection unit, as shown in FIGS. **1**, **5**, and **6**, includes: an injection cylinder **51** disposed on the cylinder head **20** and having one side connected with a water supply (not shown) and having the lower end where an injection nozzle **51a** aligned into the cylinder block **10** is disposed; and a nozzle opening/closing rod **52** rotatably combined with the injection cylinder **51** and elastically biased in the closing direction of the injection nozzle **51a** while rotating to close the injection nozzle **51a** by a water injection operating mechanism **61**, which is described below.

The third camshaft **60** is disposed above the cylinder head **20** described above and the third camshaft rotates with the rotation of the first camshaft **30**, and controls the operation of the combustion gas intake controller **80** and the combustion gas exhaust controller **90** while operating the water injection operating mechanism **61** such that water can be injected into the cylinder block **10**. The water injection operating mechanism **61**, which operates the water injection unit **50**, right after re-intake and recompression of the re-circulated combustion gas in the cylinder block **10** while integrally rotating with the third camshaft **60**, is disposed on the third camshaft **60**.

It is preferable that the third camshaft **60** positioned between the first camshaft **30** and the second camshaft **40** is biased to one side from the center of the cylinder head **20** such that the ignition plug or the fuel injector can be installed at the center of the cylinder head **20**.

Further, the third camshaft **60** is rotated with the rotation of the first camshaft **30** by a second power transmission mechanism **120** and the second power transmission mechanism **120**, as shown in FIGS. **1** to **3**, includes a first gear **121** fixed to the first camshaft **30** and a second gear **122** fixed to the third camshaft **60** and engaged with the first gear **121**.

The gear ratio of the first gear **121** and the second gear **122** is 1:2 such that the third camshaft **60** rotates one time for the entire eight strokes made by four-time rotation of the crankshaft **14** and the water injection unit **50** correspondingly operates only one time, such that as the second gear **122** rotates one time for two-time rotation of the first gear **121**, the third camshaft **60** rotates with the rotation of the first camshaft **30**

to rotate one time for two-time rotation of the first camshaft **30** by the second power transmission mechanism **120**.

The water injection operating mechanism **61** operates with the operation of an intake control cam **83b**, which is described below, and thus described in detail when the intake control cam **83b** is described.

The intake manifold **21** and the exhaust manifold **23** are connected with the combustion gas bypass pipe **70**, as described above, in which the combustion gas bypass pipe **70** provides a channel that allows the gas mixture or air taken in the cylinder block **10** through the intake manifold **21** to be re-circulated into the intake manifold **21** and re-taken into the cylinder block **10**, without being directly discharged, when being discharged as combustion gas through the exhaust manifold **23** after compression and explosion.

One end of the combustion gas bypass pipe **70** is connected to the combustion gas intake controller **80**, which is described below, and the other end of the combustion gas bypass pipe **70** is connected to the combustion gas exhaust controller **90**, which is described below.

The combustion gas intake controller **80** is disposed at the joint of the intake manifold **21** and the combustion gas bypass pipe **70**. The combustion gas intake controller **80** selectively changes the path from the intake manifold **21** or the combustion gas bypass pipe **70** to the cylinder block **10** so that the intake manifold **21** communicates with the cylinder block **10** such that a gas mixture or air is taken into the cylinder block **10** in the intake stroke, and the combustion gas bypass pipe **70** communicates with the cylinder block **10** such that combustion gas is re-taken into the cylinder block **10** in the re-intake stroke. The combustion gas intake controller **80**, as shown in FIGS. **2**, **3**, and **9** to **11**, includes: a first semicircular plate **81** fixed to one side of the intake manifold **21** and having a first connecting pipe **81a** connected with the combustion gas bypass pipe **70**; a first rotating drum **82** rotatably fitted on a first rotating shaft **82a** while being externally tangent between the first semicircular plate **81** and the other side of the intake manifold **21**, having a first communicating pipe **82b** therein for selectively communicating both sides of the intake manifold **21** in accordance with the rotational direction, and having first communication holes **82c** selectively communicating the combustion bypass pipe **70** with the other side of the intake manifold **21** in accordance with the rotational direction, through the outer circumference; and a first actuator **83** rotating the first rotating drum **82** by rotating the first rotating shaft **82a** of the first rotating drum **82**.

The first communication holes **82c** are formed at both sides, the first communication hole **82c** at one side can communicate with the first connecting pipe **81a** and the communication hole **82c** at the other side can communicate with the other side of the intake manifold **21**.

It is very important to keep airtightness in the operation of the combustion gas intake controller **80**, for this configuration, it is preferable that both ends of the first communication pipe **82b** hermetically communicate with both sides of the intake manifold **21** in accordance with rotation of the first rotating drum **82**, and the first communication holes **82c** hermetically communicate with the first connecting pipe **81a** of the first semicircular plate **81** and the other side of the intake manifold **21**, respectively, in accordance with the rotation of the first rotating drum **82**.

Further, it is preferable that a first stopper **82d** that restricts rotational range in both directions in contact with the first semicircular plate **81** in accordance with rotation by the first actuator **83** is formed on the outer circumference of the first rotating drum **82**.

The first actuator **83** rotating the first rotating drum **82** in both directions, as shown in FIGS. **2** and **3**, includes: a first spur gear **83a** fixed to the first rotating shaft **82a** of the first rotating drum **82**; the intake control cam **83b** integrally formed with the third camshaft **60**; an intake control rod **83c** elastically biased by, for example, a coil spring such that one end is in contact with the intake control cam **83b**, and linearly moved by the rotation of the third camshaft **60**; and a first rack gear **83d** integrally formed at the other end of the intake control rod **83c** and engaged with the first spur gear **83a**.

Accordingly, as the third camshaft **60** rotates, the intake control cam **83b** integrally formed thereto rotates, the intake control rod **83c** that is in close contact with the intake control cam **83b** linearly moves with the first rack gear **83d** at the end linearly moving, the first spur gear **83a** fixed to the first rotation shaft **82a** of the first rotating drum **82** is rotated alternately in both directions by the linear movement of the first rack gear **83d**, and the first rotating drum **82** rotates between the first semi-circular plate **81** and the other side of the intake manifold **21**, such that the intake manifold **21** communicates with the cylinder block **10** and a gas mixture or air is taken into the cylinder block in the intake stroke, while the combustion gas bypass pipe **70** communicates with the cylinder block **10** and the combustion gas is re-taken into the cylinder block in the exhaust stroke.

The water injection operating mechanism **61** of the third camshaft **60** described above operates with the operation of the intake control cam **83b** of the first actuator **83**. The water injection operating mechanism **61**, as shown in FIGS. **5** and **6**, has a protrusion **61a** protruding from one side of the top of the nozzle opening/closing rod **52** and a trigger **61b** formed on the intake control cam **83b** and rotating the nozzle opening/closing rod **52** by pushing the protrusion **61a** in accordance with the rotation of the intake control cam **83b**.

The trigger **61b** rotates the nozzle opening/closing rod **52** to open the injection nozzle **51a**, only right after re-intake and recompression of the re-circulated combustion gas is completed in the cylinder block **10**, such that water is injected into the cylinder block **10** by the water injection unit **50** only after recompression of the combustion gas is completed during the entire eight strokes made by four-time rotation of the crankshaft **14**.

The combustion gas exhaust controller **90** is disposed at the joint of the exhaust manifold **23** and the combustion gas bypass pipe **70**, which is described above. The combustion gas exhaust controller **90** selectively changes the path from the cylinder block **10** to the combustion gas bypass pipe **70** or the exhaust manifold **23** so that the combustion gas bypass pipe **70** communicates with the cylinder block **10** such that combustion gas is re-circulated through the combustion gas bypass pipe **70** in the intake stroke, while the exhaust manifold **23** communicates with the cylinder block **10** such that combustion gas containing vapor is consequently discharged through the exhaust manifold **23** in the exhaust stroke. The combustion gas exhaust controller **90**, as shown in FIGS. **2**, **3** and **9** to **11**, includes: a second semicircular plate **91** fixed to one side of the exhaust manifold **23** and having a second connecting pipe **91a** connected with the combustion gas bypass pipe **70**; a second rotating drum **92** rotatably disposed by a second rotating shaft **92a** while being externally tangent between the second semicircular plate **91** and the other side of the exhaust manifold **23**, having a second communicating pipe **92b** therein for selectively communicating both sides of the exhaust manifold **23** in accordance with the rotational direction, and having second communication holes **92c** selectively communicating the combustion bypass pipe **70** with the other side of the exhaust manifold **23** in accordance with the

rotational direction, through the outer circumference; and a second actuator **93** connected to the second rotating shaft **92c** and rotating the second rotating drum **92**.

The second communication holes **92c** are formed at both sides, the second communication hole **92c** at one side can communicate with the second connecting pipe **91a** and the communication hole **92c** at the other side can communicate with the other side of the exhaust manifold **23**.

It is very important to keep airtightness in the operation of the combustion gas exhaust controller **90**, for this configuration, it is preferable that both ends of the second communication pipe **92b** hermetically communicate with both sides of the exhaust manifold **23** in accordance with rotation of the second rotating drum **92**, and the second communication holes **92c** hermetically communicate with the second connecting pipe **91a** of the second semicircular plate and the other side of the exhaust manifold **23**, respectively, in accordance with the rotation of the first rotating drum **92**.

Further, it is preferable that a second stopper **92d** that restricts rotational range in both directions in contact with the second semicircular plate **91** in accordance with rotation by the second actuator **93** is formed on the outer circumference of the second rotating drum **92**.

The second actuator **93** rotating the second rotating drum **92** in both directions, as shown in FIGS. **2** and **3**, includes: a second spur gear **93a** fixed to the second rotating shaft **92a** of the second rotating drum **92**, the exhaust control cam **93b** integrally formed with the third camshaft **60**; an exhaust control rod **93c** elastically biased by, for example, a coil spring such that one end is in contact with the exhaust control cam **93b**, and linearly moved by the rotation of the third camshaft **60**; and a second rack gear **93d** integrally formed at the other end of the exhaust control rod **93c** and engaged with the second spur gear **93a**.

Accordingly, as the third camshaft **60** rotates, the exhaust control cam **93b** integrally formed thereto rotates, the exhaust control rod **93c** that is in close contact with the exhaust control cam **93b** linearly moves with the second rack gear **93d** at the end linearly moving, the second spur gear **93a** fixed to the first rotation shaft **92a** of the second rotating drum **92** is rotated alternately in both directions by the linear movement of the second rack gear **93d**, and the second rotating drum **92** rotates between the second semi-circular plate **91** and the other side of the exhaust manifold **23**, such that the combustion gas bypass pipe **70** communicates with the cylinder block **10** and the combustion gas is re-circulated through the bypass pipe **70** in the exhaust stroke, while the exhaust manifold **23** communicates with the cylinder block **10** and combustion gas containing vapor is consequently discharge through the exhaust manifold **23** in the re-exhaust stroke.

FIG. **12** shows a stroke flowchart of the 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to the present invention. The entire operation of the 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to the present invention is schematically illustrated hereafter with reference to the accompanying drawings.

The 8-stroke internal combustion engine **1** according to the present invention, as shown in FIG. **12**, generates power through total eight strokes, including: an intake stroke that takes a gas mixture or air into the cylinder block **10**; a compression stroke that compresses the gas mixture or the air taken into the cylinder block by the intake stroke, by moving up the piston **11**; an explosion stroke that ignites the gas mixture compressed by the compression stroke or makes explosive combustion by injecting fuel to the air compressed by the compression stroke; an exhaust stroke that discharges and re-circulates the combustion gas burned by the explosion stroke from the cylinder block **10** to the combustion gas

11

bypass pipe **70**; a re-intake stroke that makes the combustion gas re-circulated to the combustion gas bypass pipe **70** by the exhaust stroke flow again into the cylinder block **10**; a re-compression stroke that recompresses the combustion gas re-taken into the cylinder block **10** by the re-intake stroke by moving up the piston **11**; an expansion stroke that expanding volume due to evaporation of water by injecting the water to the combustion gas compressed at high temperature by the recompression stroke; and a re-exhaust stroke that consequently discharges the combustion gas containing vapor after the expansion stroke out of the cylinder block **10**.

FIGS. **13** to **28** are flowcharts illustrating the order of entire operation of the 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to the present invention, in accordance with each 90° rotation angle of the crankshaft. Hereafter, the operation of the 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to the present invention is described for each stroke.

In the 8-stroke internal combustion engine **1** according to the present invention, it should be noted that the intake valves **22** are kept closed during the entire eight strokes, except for the intake stroke and the re-intake stroke, while the exhaust valves **24** are kept closed during the entire eight strokes, except for the exhaust stroke and the re-exhaust stroke. Further, the combustion gas intake controller **80** keeps the first communication pipe **82b** communicating one side with the other side of the intake manifold **21** during the entire eight strokes, except for the exhaust stroke and the re-intake stroke, while the combustion gas exhaust controller **90** keeps the second communication pipe **92b** communicating one side with the other side of the exhaust manifold **23** during the entire eight strokes, except for the exhaust stroke and the re-intake stroke.

FIGS. **13** and **14** show the intake stroke, and during the intake stroke, the crankshaft **14** rotates from 0° to 180°, the first camshaft **30** and the second camshaft **40** are rotated from 0° to 90° with the rotation of the crankshaft **14** by the first power transmission mechanism **110**, and the third camshaft **60** rotates from 0° to 45° with the rotation of the first camshaft **30** by the second power transmission mechanism **120**.

The intake cams **31** integrally formed with the first camshaft **30** push down the intake valves **22** and the intake manifold **21** is opened while the crankshaft **14** rotates from 0° to 180°, a gas mixture of air can be taken into the cylinder block **10**, the gas mixture or the air is taken into the cylinder block **10** and the exhaust valves **24** is kept closed while the piston **11** moves from the top dead center to the bottom dead center, such that the exhaust manifold **23** is kept closed. When the crankshaft **14** rotates at 180° and the piston **11** reaches the bottom dead center, the intake valves **22** return and the intake manifold **21** is closed again, thereby the intake stroke is completed.

FIGS. **15** and **16** show the compression stroke, and during the compression stroke, the crankshaft **14** rotates from 180° to 360°, the first camshaft **30** and the second camshaft **40** are rotated from 90° to 180° with the rotation of the crankshaft **14** by the first power transmission mechanism **110**, the third camshaft **60** is rotated from 45° to 90° with the rotation of the first camshaft **30** by the second power transmission mechanism **120**.

While the crank shaft **14** rotates from 180° to 360°, the intake valves **22** are kept closed and the intake manifold **22** is kept closed, and the exhaust valves **24** are kept closed and the exhaust manifold **23** is kept closed, and the piston **11** compresses the gas mixture or the air in the cylinder block **10** while move from the bottom dead center to the top dead center.

12

FIGS. **17** and **18** show the explosion stroke, and during the explosion stroke, the crankshaft **14** rotates from 360° to 540°, the first camshaft **30** and the second camshaft **40** are rotated from 180° to 270° with the rotation of the crankshaft **14** by the first power transmission mechanism **110**, and the third camshaft **60** is rotated from 90° to 135° with the rotation of the first camshaft **30** by the second power transmission mechanism.

Flame is made by an ignition plug by a distributor (not shown) or fuel is injected through the fuel injector after the crankshaft **14** rotates to 360°, such that the compressed gas mixture or the air pushes down the piston **11** while explosively burning, this force is transmitted to the crank **13** through the connecting rod **12** and rotates the crankshaft **14**, and consequently, the piston **11** moves from the top dead center to the bottom dead center while the crankshaft **14** rotates from 360° to 540°.

While the crankshaft **14** rotates from 360° to 540°, the intake valves **22** are kept closed and the intake manifold **22** is kept closed, and the exhaust valves **24** kept closed and the exhaust manifold **23** is kept closed.

FIGS. **19** and **20** show the exhaust stroke, and during the exhaust stroke, the crankshaft **14** rotates from 540° to 720°, the first camshaft **30** and the second camshaft **40** are rotated from 270° to 360° with the rotation of the crankshaft **14** by the first power transmission mechanism **110**, and the third camshaft **60** is rotated from 135° to 180° with the rotation of the first camshaft **30** by the second power transmission mechanism **120**.

While the crankshaft **14** rotates from 540° to 720°, the intake valves **22** are kept closed and the intake manifold **22** is kept closed, the exhaust cams **31** integrally formed with the second camshaft **40** push down the exhaust valves **22** and the exhaust manifold **23** is opened, such that the combustion gas can be discharged from the cylinder block **10**, and the piston **11** pushes and discharges the combustion gas while moving from the bottom dead center to the top dead center. When the crankshaft **14** rotates to 720°, the exhaust valves **24** return and the exhaust manifold **23** is closed again, there by completing the exhaust stroke.

In the exhaust stroke, as the intake control rod **83c** is linearly moved by the intake control cam **83b** integrally formed with the third camshaft **60**, the first rotating drum **82** rotates, and as a result, the combustion gas intake controller **80** is kept communicating the combustion gas bypass pipe **70** with the other side of the intake manifold **21** through the first communication hole **82c**. Further, as the exhaust control rod **93c** is linearly moved by the exhaust control cam **93b** integrally formed with the third camshaft **60**, the second rotating drum **92** rotates, and as a result, the combustion engine controller **90** is kept communicating the combustion gas bypass pipe **70** with the other side of the exhaust manifold **23** through the second communication hole **92c**.

Therefore, the combustion gas discharged from the cylinder block **10** by the exhaust stroke is not discharged through the exhaust manifold **23**, but re-circulated through the combustion bypass pipe **70**.

FIGS. **21** and **22** show the re-intake stroke, and during the re-intake stroke, the crankshaft **14** rotates from 720° to 900°, the first camshaft **30** and the second camshaft **40** are rotated from 360° to 450° with the rotation of the crankshaft by the first power transmission mechanism **110**, and the third camshaft **60** is rotated from 180° to 225° with the rotation of the first camshaft **30** by the second power transmission mechanism **120**.

While the crankshaft **14** rotates from 720° to 900°, the intake cams **31** integrally formed with the first camshaft **30**

13

push down the intake valves **22** and the intake manifold **21** is opened, such that the combustion gas re-circulated through the combustion gas bypass pipe **70** can be re-taken into the cylinder block **10**, and the combustion gas is re-taken into the cylinder block **10** and the exhaust valves **24** are kept closed while the piston **11** moves from the top dead center to the bottom dead center, such that the exhaust manifold **23** is kept closed. When the crankshaft **14** rotates to 900° and the piston **11** reaches the bottom dead center, the intake valves **22** return and the intake manifold **21** is closed again, thereby completing the re-intake stroke.

After the re-intake stroke is completed, as the intake control rod **83c** returns while being linearly moved in the opposite direction by the intake control cam **83b** integrally formed with the third camshaft **60**, the first rotating drum **82** rotates, and as a result, the combustion gas intake controller **80** is converted into the initial state such that the first communication hole **82b** communicates one side with the other side of the intake manifold **21**. Further, as the exhaust control rod **93c** returns while being linearly moved in the opposite direction by the exhaust control cam **93b** integrally formed with the third camshaft **60**, the second rotating drum **92** rotates, and as a result, the combustion gas exhaust controller **90** is converted to the initial state such that the second communication hole **92b** communicates one side with the other side of the exhaust manifold **23**.

FIGS. **23** and **24** show the recompression stroke, and during the recompression stroke, the crankshaft **14** rotates from 900° to 1080° , the first camshaft **30** and the second camshaft **40** are rotated from 450° to 540° with the rotation of the crankshaft by the first power transmission mechanism **110**, and the third camshaft **60** is rotated from 225° to 270° with the rotation of the first camshaft **30** by the second power transmission mechanism **120**.

While the crankshaft **14** rotates from 900° to 1080° , the intake valves **22** are kept closed and the intake manifold **22** is kept closed, the exhaust valves **24** are also kept closed and the exhaust manifold **23** is kept closed, and the piston recompresses the combustion gas in the cylinder block **10** while moving from the bottom dead center to the top dead center.

FIGS. **25** and **26** show the expansion stroke, and during the expansion stroke, the crankshaft **14** rotates from 1080° to 1260° , the first camshaft **30** and the second camshaft **40** are rotated from 540° to 630° with the rotation of the crankshaft by the first power transmission mechanism **110**, and the third camshaft **60** is rotated from 270° to 315° with the rotation of the first camshaft **30** by the second power transmission mechanism **120**.

When the crankshaft **14** rotates to 1080° and the combustion gas is recompressed, the inside of the cylinder block is maintained at high temperature and the combustion gas is compressed at high pressure by heat due to the explosion stroke and heat from the combustion gas.

In this process, as the trigger **61b** of the intake control cam **83b** pushes the protrusion **61a** and the water injection unit **50** is operated, water is injected into the cylinder block **10**, and the injected water moves down the piston **11** to the bottom dead center while explosively evaporating and expanding in the high-temperature and high-pressure cylinder block **10**, such that rotational power for the crankshaft **14** is generated.

While the crankshaft **14** rotates from 1080° to 1260° , the intake valves **22** are kept closed and the intake manifold **22** is kept closed, and the exhaust valves **24** are also kept closed and the exhaust manifold **23** is kept closed.

FIG. **27** shows the re-exhaust stroke, and during the re-exhaust stroke, the crankshaft **14** rotates from 1260° to 1440° , the first camshaft **30** and the second camshaft **40** are rotated

14

from 630° to 720° with the rotation of the crankshaft by the first power transmission mechanism **110**, and the third camshaft **60** is rotated from 315° to 360° with the rotation of the first camshaft **30** by the second power transmission mechanism **120**.

While the crankshaft **14** rotates from 1260° to 1440° , the intake valves **22** are kept closed and the intake manifold **21** is kept closed, the exhaust cams **41** integrally formed with the second camshaft **40** push down the exhaust valves **24** and the exhaust manifold **23** is opened, such that combustion gas containing vapor can be discharged from the cylinder block **10**, and the piston **11** pushes the combustion gas containing vapor and consequently discharges the combustion gas through the exhaust manifold **23** while moving from the bottom dead center to the top dead center. When the crankshaft **14** rotates to 1440° , as shown in FIG. **28**, the exhaust valve **24** return and the exhaust manifold **23** is closed again, thereby completing the re-exhaust stroke.

With completion of the re-exhaust stroke, the entire 8-stroke cycle is completed, and simultaneously, the 8-stroke internal combustion engine **1** according to the present invention returns, as shown in FIG. **13**, and power is generated by repeating the 8-stroke cycle.

During the entire eight strokes in the 8-stroke internal combustion engine **1** according to the present invention, the crankshaft **14** rotates at 1440° (four-time rotation), the first camshaft **30** and the second camshaft **40** are rotated at 720° (two-time rotation) with the rotation of the crankshaft **14** by the first power transmission mechanism **110**, and the third camshaft **60** is rotated at 360° (one-time rotation) with the rotation of the first camshaft **30** by the second power transmission mechanism **120**.

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

When an 8-stroke internal combustion engine is applied to vehicles, power is generated by four strokes due to combustion of the fuel and four strokes due to evaporation and expansion of injected water which are alternately repeated, such that it is possible to considerably increase fuel efficiency in comparison with 4-stroke or 6-stroke internal combustion engines in the related art. Further, the same power as the four strokes due to the evaporation and the expansion of the injected water is generated in the four strokes due to the combustion of the fuel, by re-circulating, re-taking, and recompressing the combustion gas and then injecting the water, right after the four strokes due to the combustion of the fuel. Therefore, it is possible to continuously generate a predetermined level of power, even if the four strokes due to the combustion of the fuel and the four strokes due to the evaporation and expansion of the injected water are repeated. Furthermore, it is possible significantly increase thermal efficiency by collecting waste heat from the combustion gas by re-circulating the combustion gas right after the four strokes due to the combustion of the fuel. Further, since the water injection unit, which operates with rotation of the crankshaft, injects water only when the re-circulated combustion gas is compressed, by using relatively simple mechanism, it is possible to prevent malfunction and considerably increase reliability in water injection timing.

The invention claimed is:

1. An 8-stroke internal combustion engine, comprising:
 - a cylinder block in which rotational power is generated by a crankshaft rotated by up-down reciprocation of a piston that is transmitted through a connecting rod;
 - a cylinder head connected to the top of the cylinder block and having one side connected with an intake manifold

15

- opened/closed by intake valves and the other side connected with exhaust manifolds opened/closed by an exhaust valve;
- a first camshaft arranged above the cylinder head, rotating with the rotation of the crankshaft, and having integral intake cams operating the intake valves;
- a second camshaft arranged above the cylinder head, rotating with the rotation of the crankshaft, and having integral exhaust cams operating the exhaust valves;
- a water injection unit disposed above the cylinder head and injecting water into the cylinder block;
- a third camshaft arranged above the cylinder head, rotating with the rotation of the first camshaft, and having an injection mechanism operating the water injection unit;
- combustion gas bypass pipes connecting the intake manifold with the exhaust manifold;
- a combustion gas intake controller disposed in the intake manifold and connected with the combustion gas bypass pipe to selectively control intake of a gas mixture or air or re-intake of combustion gas; and
- a combustion gas exhaust controller disposed in the exhaust manifold and connected with the combustion gas bypass pipe to selectively control exhaust or re-circulation of combustion gas.
2. The 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to claim 1, wherein an ignition plug or a fuel injector is disposed at the center of the cylinder head.
3. The 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to claim 2, wherein the first camshaft and the second camshaft are rotated with the rotation of the crankshaft by a first power transmission mechanism including a first sprocket fixed to the crankshaft, a second sprocket fixed to the first camshaft, a third sprocket fixed to the second camshaft, and a power chain linking the sprockets.
4. The 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to claim 3, wherein as the second and third sprockets rotate one time for two-time rotation of the first sprocket, the first camshaft and the second camshaft rotate one time with two-time rotation of the crankshaft.
5. The 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to claim 4, wherein the third camshaft is rotated with the rotation of the first camshaft by a second power transmission mechanism including a first gear fixed to the first camshaft and a second gear fixed to the third camshaft and engaged with the first gear.
6. The 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to claim 5, wherein as the second gear rotates one time for two-time rotation of the first gear, the third camshaft is rotated one time with two-time rotation of the first camshaft.
7. The 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to claim 6, wherein the combustion gas intake controller includes: a first semicircular plate fixed to one side of the intake manifold;
- a first rotating drum rotatably fitted on a first rotating shaft while being externally tangent between the first semicircular plate and the other side of the intake manifold, having a first communicating pipe therein for selectively communication both sides of the intake manifold in accordance with the rotational direction, and having first communication holes selectively communicating the combustion bypass pipe with the other side of the intake manifold in accordance with the rotational direction, through the outer circumference; and
- a first actuator rotating the first rotating drum by rotating the first rotating shaft of the first rotating drum.

16

8. The 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to claim 7, wherein the first actuator includes:
- a first spur gear fixed to the first rotating shaft of the first rotating drum;
- an intake control cam integrally formed with the third camshaft;
- an intake control rod elastically biased by a coil spring such that one end is in contact with the intake control cam, and linearly moved by the rotation of the third camshaft; and
- a first rack gear integrally formed at the other end of the intake control rod and engaged with the first spur gear.
9. The 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to claim 8, wherein the combustion gas exhaust controller includes;
- a second semicircular plate fixed to one side of the exhaust manifold and communication with the combustion gas bypass pipe;
- a second rotating drum rotatably fitted on a second rotating shaft while being externally tangent between the second semicircular plate and the other side of the exhaust manifold, having a second communicating pipe therein for selectively communication both sides of the exhaust manifold in accordance with the rotational direction, and having second communication holes selectively communicating the combustion bypass pipe with the other side of the exhaust manifold in accordance with the rotational direction, through the outer circumference; and
- a second actuator connected to the second rotating shaft and rotating the second rotating drum.
10. The 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to claim 9, wherein the second actuator includes;
- a second spur gear fixed to the second rotating shaft of the second rotating drum; the exhaust control cam integrally formed with the third camshaft;
- an exhaust control rod elastically biased by a coil spring such that one end is in contact with the exhaust control cam, and linearly moved by the rotation of the third camshaft; and
- a second rack gear integrally formed at the other end of the exhaust control rod and engaged with the second spur gear.
11. The 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to claim 8, wherein the water injection unit includes:
- an injection cylinder disposed on the cylinder head and having one side connected with a water supply and having the lower end where an injection nozzle is disposed; and
- a nozzle opening/closing rod rotatably combined with the injection cylinder and elastically biased in the closing direction of the injection nozzle while rotating to close the injection nozzle with operation of a water injection operating mechanism.
12. The 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to claim 11, the water injection operating mechanism has a protrusion protruding from one side of the top of the nozzle opening/closing rod and a trigger formed on the intake control cam and rotating the nozzle opening/closing rod by pushing the protrusion in accordance with the rotation of the intake control cam.
13. The 8-stroke internal combustion engine according to claim 12, wherein the trigger rotates the nozzle opening/closing rod to open the injection nozzle, after re-intake and recompression of the re-circulated combustion gas is completed in the cylinder block.